

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

17 DECEMBER 1986

Iran-Iraq War

IRNA reported that 22 civilians were killed and 48 were wounded in a 16 December Iraqi air raid on residential and industrial areas in Do Rud, southwest of Arak. An Iraqi spokesman cited by INA denied that residential areas were hit, stressing that the raid was targeted on a cement factory in Do Rud.

Lebanon

Camps War — A PNSF statement broadcast by Radio Monte Carlo said that Yasir 'Arafat's "deviant leadership" is "primarily responsible" for obstructing the 8 December cease-fire agreement because the continued presence of 'Arafat's forces in Maghdushah has impeded implementation of other clauses in the Iranian-sponsored accord. The PNSF reaffirmed its commitment to the agreement and urged the Amal Movement not to use the refusal of 'Arafat's group to withdraw from Maghdushah as a pretext to continue attacks on the Palestinians. A DFLP official attended the meeting which authorized the statement, the radio noted, but he withdrew to protest the condemnation of 'Arafat's group.

Lebanese-Syrian Contacts — Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad received an envoy of President Amin al-Jumayyil, Beirut radio reported, adding that their talks focused on ways to deal with the continuing crisis in Lebanon. An Algerian official who recently visited Lebanon told Kuwait's *Al-Siyasah* that he expects an Al-Asad-Al-Jumayyil summit in the near future.

Egypt

An Interior Ministry official cited by MENA announced that security police recently arrested 44 members of the "Revolutionary Current," a Marxist organization that sought to overthrow the regime and forcibly impose a communist system. The leaders of the group were arrested 12 December while attending a secret congress in Al-Jizah, the official said, while others were detained during searches in various governorates. Documents seized from the group's headquarters show that it sought to incite the masses and encourage the public to carry out "antiregime acts." The official added that those arrested include Muhammad 'Abd al-Mun'im Talimah, a professor at Cairo University Arts College.

Israel

Responding to President Husni Mubarak's recent public criticism of Israel, Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir urged the

Egyptian leader to hold the dialogue directly rather than through the media, Jerusalem radio reported. Shamir asked visiting U.S. Senator Rudy Boschwitz to convey this message to Mubarak.

Saudi Arabia

Petromin Chief's 'Retirement' — 'Abd al-Hadi Hasan Tahir, the governor of the General Establishment for Petroleum and Minerals, was relieved from his post "by retirement," according to a royal decree cited by Riyadh radio.

Iraqi Message — Visiting Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq 'Aziz gave King Fahd a message from the Iraqi president concerning bilateral relations and issues of common concern, INA reported.

OPEC

Iran has called for Iraq's suspension from OPEC because of the Iraqi refusal to accept OPEC decisions, IRNA reported 17 December. Nevertheless, an Iranian oil official told the agency that "in order to prevent a deadlock," Iran will not protest if a portion of other members' quotas are allocated to Iraq. The Iraqi oil minister stated earlier that his country will never accept a cut in its oil production even if this causes the collapse of the current conference in Geneva, according to KUNA.

Kuwait

In a statement reported by KUNA, Crown Prince Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah warned that there are still elements in the country who are attempting to undermine national unity, but he added that the government will not allow them to succeed.

Libyan-Soviet Relations

Bilateral relations are at a high level and both countries are determined to raise them even higher, Supreme Soviet Presidium Chairman Andrey Gromyko stated in remarks reported by TASS. Gromyko was speaking during "warm and frank" talks with visiting Foreign Liaison Secretary Kamil Hasan Mansur, TASS noted. Mansur subsequently stressed that his talks with Soviet leaders were "extremely beneficial and fruitful," according to Voice of Greater Arab Homeland radio.

Sudan-Iran

Prime Minister Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi arrived in Iran 17 December at the start of a 4-day official visit, Tehran radio reported.

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Najibullah Returns From Visit to Moscow**Cables Gorbachev En Route**

LD162020 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari
1600 GMT 16 Dec 86

[Text] General Secretary of the PDPA Central Committee Comrade Najib, while passing through Soviet airspace on his way back from the official and friendly visit to the USSR sent a telegram addressed to General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee M. Gorbachev. The telegram says in part: The productive result of Afghan-Soviet talks in Moscow will provide favorable conditions for the peaceful solution of the events around Afghanistan.

The telegram adds: The people of Afghanistan will always remain faithful to its fraternal friendship with the Soviet Union — a friendship whose foundation was laid by the great Lenin. We will never forget that in a difficult time the Soviet Union assisted our country by lending a hand of friendship and assistance.

Views Results of Visit

LD162036 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari
1600 GMT 16 Dec 86

[Text] This afternoon General Secretary of the PDPA Central Committee Comrade Najib took part in a broad meeting held in the Storey Palace of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs attended by a number of full and candidate members of the Politburo, secretaries of the PDPA Central Committee, officials in charge of departments of the PDPA Central Committee, personnel of the Central Committee apparatus, a number of officials of the Kabul city and district party committees, officials of the party committees of Kabul City's wards, ministers, heads of the state committee and departments of the DRA, a number of secretaries of the primary party organizations of Kabul City, and officials of social organizations.

At this meeting Najib spoke in detail about the preliminary results of the visit to the Soviet Union by the DRA high ranking party and government delegation.

In an atmosphere of explicitness and openness, which is one of the most important component parts of the reconstruction of party and political work, Comrade Najib spoke in detail about the talks and meetings carried out by the Afghan delegation with the Soviet leadership headed by General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee M.S. Gorbachev.

Comrade Najib highly assessed the visit of the high-ranking Afghan delegation as an event of exceptional importance for the consolidating of fraternal Afghan-Soviet relations, attaining of a peaceful solution of the issues around Afghanistan, and achieving national reconciliation and restoration of peace and security in the country. He expressed the enormous gratitude of the party and government leadership and the people of Afghanistan for the Soviet Union's constructive stand and all-round support for our country.

Discusses Visit With Workers

LD162353 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari
1600 GMT 15 Dec 86

[Speech by PDPA Central Committee General Secretary Najibullah at a tractor factory in Tashkent on 13 December — recorded]

[Excerpts] Dear Comrade [name indistinct], dear friends and comrades, dear workers, and experts: We have just returned from Moscow. This is our first meeting with you after our official and friendly visit in the Soviet Union. A few hours have passed from our sincere and friendly meeting with General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee M.S. Gorbachev and other members of the party and state leadership of the Soviet Union. This visit emphasized the unshakeable friendship between our countries, the foundation of which has been laid by V.I. Lenin.

Our delegation comprehensively discussed the revolutionary changes that have taken place in our ancient land and in connection with measures taken toward achieving peace through national reconciliation. With great interest we became acquainted with the great tasks being carried out in the area of realizing the decisions made at the last congress in the Soviet Union. Our meeting with M.S. Gorbachev was unforgettable. These meetings and discussions are of great importance for our people.

Comrades, (?allow) me to convey to you the revolutionary greetings of the toilers of Afghanistan from the bottom of my heart. [passage omitted]

We will always remember that it was the working class of Russia that for the first time in the world officially recognized our independence. We will never forget that in the difficult years, when our newly victorious revolution was at the abyss of elimination; when international imperialism, regional reaction, and the internal counterrevolutionaries were (?openly) dragging our revolution to the abyss of annihilation, the working class of the country of Soviets came to our help. Your sacrifices in the name of revolutionary solidarity are immeasurable. The names of your sons will forever live in the future memorial columns of our country and the victory of our revolution. Brothers, on behalf of all the Afghan patriots and all our persecuted people, thank you. [passage omitted]

However, our work is taking place in the most cruel conditions of the undeclared war where half of our economy, inevitably, is engaged in defending the country. [as heard] Every second afghani of our budget, every second meter of the manufactured fabrics, and every half of the baked bread, goes for the soldiers of the revolution.

The damage imposed on the country's economic life as a result of the subversive deeds of the counterrevolutionary bandits has reached the large sum of over 50 billion afghanis. Its dimension is constantly being broadened because (?robbery) is continuing. Under these circumstances our workers are still more firmly being (?organized) around the party and revolutionary government. The primary party organizations are being created in every productive enterprise and in most mixed and private enterprises.

So far, 17,000 workers have gained PDPA membership. The workers form the foundation for the DRA trade unions. The workers voluntarily join the ranks of the Armed Forces and temporarily lay down the tools of their work. [passage omitted] [passage indistinct]

The Afghan patriots and internationalists will become victorious. We will use all our efforts so that peace is restored in our persecuted land. We will use all our efforts so that the toiling people find the possibility for safe work for the tranquility of their people and revolution.

Long live proletarian internationalism. Long live friendship between Afghan and Soviet workers.

We will become victorious. [Word indistinct] the workers will become victorious. [applause]

Pakistani Border Violation Claims Rejected
LD131749 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1430 GMT
 13 Dec 86

[Text] The charge d'affaires of Pakistan's Embassy in Kabul was summoned to the Foreign Ministry at 1400 hours today and the following points were made to him by the first political section director:

Pakistan's military authorities, in order to cover up their aggressive actions, have claimed that DRA military forces violated the regions of (?Terry Mangal, Arawari) and Landay Pass on 19 and 20 November and also on 4 December.

The DRA Government, after all-round assessment and investigation, considers these claims by the Pakistan Government far from the truth and rejects them resolutely. It demands that Pakistani military authorities end such groundless claims which do nothing but aggravate the situation on the borders.

Armed Forces Capture Rebels, Seize Weapons
LD161720 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari
 1600 GMT 16 Dec 86

[Text] As a result of the successful operations carried out by the Armed Forces in (Shengal Abad), (Dewari-Maydan), and Shur Tappeh villages, Balkh Province, 12 armed counterrevolutionaries were captured and a number of these criminals were crushed.

The BIA military correspondent reported that as a result of these successful operations 3 recoilless guns, 3 Chinese-made rocket launchers together with their 17 rockets, 2 heavy machine guns, 14 launching units for surface-to-surface missiles, 16 various U.S. and Chinese-made weapons, together with (?33) boxes of ammunition, and a large number of antipersonnel mines were seized.

During these operations, a number of surface-to-surface missiles and other various weapons and enemy propaganda leaflets [word indistinct] were also destroyed.

The report adds that after the crush and arrest of the armed counterrevolutionary bands, over 80 youths of this region voluntarily showed preparedness to join the ranks of the Armed Forces and to discharge their patriotic role in crushing the counterrevolutionary elements and to restore nationwide peace in the country.

AFP Reports 67 Killed in MiG Raid 8 Dec
BK131644 Hong Kong AFP in English 1640 GMT 13 Dec 86

[Excerpt] Islamabad, Dec 13 (AFP) — Two Soviet MiG warplanes Monday [8 December] attacked Qandahar, southeastern Afghanistan, killing 67 people, the Afghan resistance news agency AIP Saturday quoted travellers arriving in the Pakistani border town of Chaman as saying. The agency said 150 people were injured in the attack.

The Soviet planes attacked villages around Qandahar, killing eight women and children, before bombing buildings that housed offices of the ruling party, the Afghan Khad secret service, and the militia, the report said.

The agency quoted Qandahar Radio as giving contradictory versions of the incident, reporting first that the raids were made by Pakistani and American planes, but later saying that Soviet pilots had bombed civilian areas by mistake. [passage omitted]

Kabul Reports Rebel Attacks in Parvan Province
LD111743 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT
 11 Dec 86

[Text] Savage counterrevolutionaries, once again resorting to inhuman actions, have martyred seven of our innocent compatriots and injured four others and caused bereavement to a number of our compatriots in Parvan Province. According to a report by the BAKHTAR military affairs correspondent, these mercenary criminals launched long range surface-to-surface missiles made in the imperialist countries, on the city of Charikar, Parvan Province. They killed a number of our compatriots and destroyed a number of houses.

The citizens of Charikar strongly condemned this savage and inhuman action which was carried out by the Golbuddin criminal band, and demanded that the country's security authorities hand these murderers over to revolutionary justice and punish these people who are serving their imperialist masters with the blood of our innocent people.

According to the report by the BAKHTAR military affairs correspondent, six other innocent compatriots were injured when counterrevolutionary elements attacked the villages of (Sofian) and (Laghmani), Parvan Province, with heavy weapons used at long range. The report adds that two elderly women and four children were injured in this incident.

According to another report, four innocent inhabitants of the village of (Rabat), Bagram District, Parvan Province, were seriously injured by the explosion of a mine which had been planted on a public road.

It is worth mentioning that the cowardly attacks by counterrevolutionary elements against our toiling people have been carried out at a time when peace loving mankind is on the point of celebrating Human Rights Day; and counterrevolutionary bandits of Afghanistan, with the encouragement of their imperialist masters, are resorting to open violation of human rights in the DRA by martyring women, children, and the elderly.

Reportage on Actions by Afghan Mujahidin

Mujahidin Nearly Control Qandahar

*BK160231 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu
0200 GMT 16 Dec 86*

[Text] In Afghanistan, 400 Kabul regime soldiers reportedly joined the mujahidin during an attack by the Soviet-Kabul regime forces on mujahidin positions in the Arghandab subdivision of Qandahar Province. The attacking troops suffered heavy losses and were forced to retreat. According to a report, Qandahar is now practically under mujahidin control.

Soviet-Kabul Post Attacked 14 Dec

*BK140945 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu
0600 GMT 14 Dec 86*

[Text] In Afghanistan, the mujahidin recently attacked a Soviet-Kabul military post in Parvan Province and killed 10 soldiers. In another attack on a border post in Herat Province, the mujahidin reportedly killed several security men stationed there.

Soviet MiG Downed 14 Dec

*BK141118 Karachi Domestic Service in English
1100 GMT 14 Dec 86*

[Text] Reports from Afghanistan say the mujahidin shot down a Soviet MiG plane which was bombing the rural areas of Khowsht.

The pilot and crew of the MiG were killed. Another report says the Soviet-Najib troops were forced to retreat from Qala Surkh to (Chikal) under the pressure of constant operations by the mujahidin.

13 Soviet-Kabul Troops Killed 13 Dec

*BK131128 Karachi Domestic Service in English
1100 GMT 13 Dec 86*

[Text] Reports from Afghanistan say 13 Soviet-Kabul troops have been killed in a recent attack on the military post of Qandahar customs house by the mujahidin. The mujahidin are also reported to have destroyed four helicopter gunships at (Badram) airport in the Parvan Province. It was the fourth attack of the mujahidin on the airport in a month.

Soviet-Kabul Security Posts Hit

*BK130809 Karachi Overseas Service in English
0800 GMT 13 Dec 86*

[Text] Reports from Afghanistan say the mujahidin wiped out two security posts of Soviet-Kabul regime in Paghman valley recently. They also killed 12 Soviet-Kabul troops in the operation.

Soviet-Kabul Convoy Attacked 28 Nov

*BK130638 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu
0600 GMT 13 Dec 86*

[Text] Reports from Afghanistan say the mujahidin attacked a Soviet-Kabul Army convoy traveling on Shindad-Herat highway on 28 November, killing 18 Soviet-Kabul soldiers. The mujahidin also damaged six armored vehicles and military trucks. In another attack on the Soviet-Kabul military convoy at (Sufidasht) near Qandahar, the mujahidin reportedly damaged a number of tanks and heavy artillery pieces.

Gandhi Receives Notes From Gorbachev, Council

*BK161735 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1530 GMT 16 Dec 86*

[Text] The Soviet Union has expressed its conviction that the recent visit of Mr Gorbachev to India will be of major significance in strengthening relations between the two countries. This has been stated in replies to the prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi's two messages of greetings to the Soviet leadership on the 69th anniversary of the Great October Revolution.

One of the messages is from Mr Gorbachev as general secretary of the Soviet Communist Party to Mr Rajiv Gandhi in his capacity as Congress-I president.

The All India Radio correspondent says the message is a personal gesture at the highest level, though no institutional links exist between the two parties.

The other message has been sent to the prime minister by the Council of Ministers of the Soviet Union. It says the traditional friendship and fruitful cooperation between India and the Soviet Union has been a major factor of peace and stability in Asia and the world. The results of the recent visit of Mr Gorbachev are of major significance. It has given new and powerful impetus to the further development of the entire complex of Indo-Soviet relations, the message says.

Cooperation Agreement Finalized With USSR

*BK161021 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0830 GMT 16 Dec 86*

[Text] India and the Soviet Union have finalized a long term agreement for economic, technical, and scientific cooperation. The agreement was finalized in a meeting of the visiting Soviet Industry minister, Mr Dinkov, and the petroleum minister Mr Brahm Dutt in New Delhi.

Moscow has offered to provide technical know-how to Hopin institute in Bombay for the manufacture of various vaccines. This followed a meeting between the 7-member Soviet delegation led by the health minister, Dr S.P. Burenkov, and the chairman of the institute, Dr R.K. Goel, in Bombay. Dr Burenkov lauded the scientists for the work being conducted at the institute.

Editorial Calls Gorbachev Visit 'Fruitful'

*BK161155 Delhi INDIAN EXPRESS in English
29 Nov 86 p 10*

[Editorial: "A Fruitful Visit"]

[Text] New Delhi has every reason to be satisfied with the outcome of the four-day visit of the Soviet leader Mr Mikhail Gorbachev to this country. The visit has not only marked an upswing in economic and technological cooperation between the two countries but has yielded a welcome Soviet clarification of important political issues which have of late caused much concern in India. Uppermost in the minds of most Indians was how Mr Gorbachev viewed the U.S. policy of pumping enormous

quantities of the latest weapons into Pakistan for the ostensible purpose of helping it to cope with the Afghan situation. In his address to Parliament, the Soviet leader reaffirmed his country's commitment "to act" under the Indo-Soviet treaty of friendship and cooperation "should a complicated situation arise." Indians will naturally hope that Islamabad and Washington will take due note of this. Mr Gorbachev was equally forthright in reassuring New Delhi that his move to mend fences with China did not imply any diminution in Soviet interest in maintaining close ties with India. In his words, his country "will not take a single step in its foreign policy that could damage India's real interests." He also sought to put the India-China relations in a wider context when he observed at his press conference that improved Sino-Soviet relations would create a better atmosphere in which mutual trust between different Asian countries would increase. Significantly, he made it a point to express the hope that both India and China would act "with due sense of responsibility". The clear implication was that in the Soviet view both countries would do well to adopt a conciliatory attitude.

New Delhi has anxiously watched the increase in military activity in the Indian Ocean. In particular, there have of late been disturbing reports of unusual movements of U.S. ships in the Arabian Sea, presumably as a part of the American bid to raise the level of U.S.-Pak military cooperation. Mr Gorbachev signalled his appreciation of India's anxiety on this score by reiterating Soviet support for convening an international conference in 1988 to take up the implementation of the UN declaration of the Indian Ocean as a zone of peace. He has in fact put forward a five-point plan for a gradual reduction of the size and activities of naval forces in the Indian Ocean. New Delhi will have to subject this plan to close scrutiny. There can be no objection in principle to the multi-lateral negotiations envisaged in the plan for different purposes. But India and other littoral states will naturally be keen to ensure that wider arrangements of any kind will not infringe their own right to take all legitimate measures of self-defence.

Mr Gorbachev's keen interest in promoting an Asian collective security system is well known. He first mentioned it to Mr Rajiv Gandhi during the latter's visit to Moscow last year. He put the idea into sharp focus in his widely publicised speech at Vladivostok last July. There was inevitably much speculation on whether he would try to elicit from Mr Gandhi a public endorsement of this proposal in some form or other. It is more than probable that the subject cropped up during the ten hours of private talks between the two leaders. But Mr Gorbachev conspicuously desisted from making a pointed reference to the collective security move in his public statements in New Delhi. In his address to Indian MP's, he did note with gratification that "the Soviet Union and India share the same approach to the idea of establishing a comprehensive system of international security." But this was in the context of the Delhi Declaration and could not have been meant to be even an indirect reference to his Asia-Pacific security plan. It is only at the non-official function organised by the Friends of the Soviet Union and the Indo-Soviet Friendship Society that the Soviet leader spoke of the plan. This suggests that he was fully aware of the Indian government's reservations regarding this project. For instance, in his banquet speech on the first day of Mr Gorbachev's visit, Mr Gandhi, while describing the Soviet security proposal as "thought-provoking",

advocated an alternative approach based on a step-by-step development of harmonious relations. Apparently, Mr Gorbachev decided not to press the issue for the time being. His failure to obtain Indian approval of his Asian security plan notwithstanding, the talks turned out to be fruitful. This is doubtless a measure of the mature understanding of each other's points of view displayed by both sides.

Paper Views Loans From USSR, Government Debts

BK161315 Delhi INDIAN EXPRESS in English

29 Nov 86 P 10

[Editorial: "Fiscal Compulsions"]

[Text] Indo-Soviet economic cooperation is so taken for granted that announcements at the end of summit meetings are treated as routine. Given the seventh plan's priorities, the areas in which the two countries have agreed to co-operate were predictable. The USSR is to help out in four specific areas: the Tehru hydroelectric projects, onshore drilling, underground coal mining, and the Bokaro steel plant. Each of these projects might have been delayed had the rupees that will now become available as a result of the Rs 2,000 crore credit line not been forthcoming. Further, since these projects are to be executed on a turnkey-basis, final completion is perhaps the least one can expect. The Soviet record in this respect is quite good. But it is not easy to be so sure about the credit itself. While there is no need to look a gift horse in the mouth, specially when the domestic resource position is so tight, the massive credit does raise a pertinent question: Why was it necessary when India is running a trade surplus of over Rs 700 crore with the USSR and when over 70 percent of the precious credits have not been utilised? The answer perhaps lies in the accounting methods adopted by the two countries. Still it is not easy to ignore the suspicion that the immediate provocation in asking for and obtaining the huge line of credit was mainly fiscal the greater-than-anticipated budget deficit that is building up in the books of the Finance Ministry.

It is worth pointing out, however, that though the loan is on very easy terms at the average rate of two percent payable over 17 years- and will not seriously strain the exchequer, it does point to two inconsistencies in what the government has been saying and what it is doing. The first is that despite exhortations to the contrary, the government is living beyond its means and filling the gap in revenues by borrowing. When the state governments do this, they are severely chastised and sometimes even penalised. Since the underlying causes of runaway expenditure at the Centre and the states are the same, it seems unfair that two different sets of rules should apply. Secondly, the Finance Ministry has been repeatedly pointing out how the burden of debts servicing — along with subsidies — has been squeezing central finances. It has now borrowed as much as Rs 2,000 crore. Though the annual addition to the interest payments will be small, some concern for principles, by which Mr V.P. Singh sets so much

store, would surely be in order. Governments, like individuals, must practice what they preach. Otherwise they run the risk of not being taken seriously.

Editorial Views Trade Prospects With USSR

BK051449 Delhi INDIAN EXPRESS in English

22 Nov 86 p 12

[Editorial: "Indo-Soviet Trade"]

[Text] For the first time in several years, trade between India and the USSR has fallen short of the target by nearly 25 per cent. The immediate explanation for this disturbing development is the fall in oil prices. (The lower oil import bill from the USSR has been duly reflected in the trade turnover figures). Since oil prices are likely to remain relatively low for some time, and because oil accounts for nearly 70 per cent of the non-military imports from the USSR, the target for next year has been fixed at a lower level. If all goes according to expectations, then the two sides can claim that things are back on an even keel. Technically, this will be true. But the preoccupation with technicalities — like book transfers that balance trade even when reality is very different — is not particularly useful. The fact of the matter is that where exports are concerned, the USSR is like a developing country, being mainly an exporter of minerals like coal, oil, and natural gas. The picture looks different, of course, if its arms exports are included. But those fall in a special category.

The particular composition of the export basket clearly has to do with the nature and structure of the Soviet economy, which ensures that the USSR manufactures very little of what are called tradeable goods. This is as much a consequence of the priorities set by Soviet planners as of the generally low level of Soviet technology. Thus, those wishing to trade with the USSR must either buy minerals — to which there is a limit — or low-tech capital equipment. The third alternative is to reduce trade or, in an extreme situation, not to trade at all. For India, the latter alternatives can be ruled out. Inevitably, therefore, increases in trade between the two countries must come from higher trade in manufactures. India, with its vast capacity to service Soviet consumer demand, is well placed to do this. Meanwhile, trade continues at politically determined prices. For the present, there is a distinct advantage for India in this because it is short of dollars and trade with the USSR is designated in rupee terms.

'Gang of Pakistani Spies' Arrested in Jammu

BK161733 Delhi Doordarshan Television Network

in English 1600 GMT 16 Dec 86

[Text] In Jammu, police have arrested a 3-member gang of Pakistani spies. One of the arrested is Abdul Khalida, the kingpin of the gang.

PRC's Geng Biao, Delegation Visit Provinces

*BK170343 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu
0200 GMT 17 Dec 86*

[Text] Leader of the Chinese National People's Congress delegation Geng Biao has again said that the Chinese people hold their Pakistani counterparts in high esteem and greatly value their friendship with Pakistan. He made these remarks during a meeting with Punjab Governor Makhdoom Muhammad Sajjad Hussain Qureshi in Lahore yesterday. The provincial governor on his part referred to the growing bilateral cooperation in every sphere of life and thanked China for its support on the Afghanistan issue, which, he said, has encouraged Pakistan.

Earlier, the Chinese delegation had a meeting with North-West Frontier Province Governor Fida Mohammad Khan who observed that relations between the two countries are deep-rooted and are being maintained not only on the level of the two governments, but also on the level of the two peoples.

The Chinese delegation visited Jamrud in the Khyber Agency, where they were accorded an enthusiastic welcome by the tribal chiefs.

Welcoming the delegation on behalf of the tribesmen, Haji Malik Ghuliz Khan Kukikhel thanked China for providing humanitarian assistance to Afghan refugees and for supporting Pakistan's principled stand on the Afghanistan issue.

PRC's Wu Xiuquan Visits; Speaks on Trade Ties

*BK151619 Islamabad THE PAKISTAN TIMES in English
2 Dec 86 p 8*

[Text] Karachi, Dec 1 — Mr Wu Xiuquan, leader of the Chinese delegation from the Beijing Institute of International Strategic Studies, has said that with the economic development now taking place both in China and Pakistan, trade and economic relations between the two countries are likely to show further all round improvements.

Speaking at the Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Karachi here this morning, he observed that both China and Pakistan are developing countries, which have witnessed great economic progress during the past few years. He hoped that there would be more exchanges and trade relations would show an appreciable improvement as the two friendly countries achieve further economic progress in the years to come.

Mr Wu, referring to the existing trade imbalance between China and Pakistan, said that during the exchange of business relations trade imbalance is bound to occur. China also has imbalance in its trade with the United States and a very imbalance with Japan, he said.

He said that China is fully aware of this situation and to correct the imbalances in trade, committees have already been set up in his country to study this problem and suggest remedial measures.

Mr Wu assured the business community that since China and Pakistan are close friends, he will bring this problem to the notice

of Chinese Minister for Foreign Trade so that measures could be taken to improve trade between the two countries and also correct the existing imbalance.

He expressed the hope that business community here would also make necessary efforts to reduce the trade imbalance between China and Pakistan.

Earlier, Mr Khalid Tawab, Acting President, Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Karachi, welcoming the Chinese delegation pointed out that the traditional friendship and cordial relations have not reflected in Pakistan, China trade relations in a big way.

Pakistan's imports from China which were Rs. 1891.3 million in 1981-82 have gone up to Rs. 1954.2 million in 1985-86. As against this, Pakistan's exports to China estimated at Rs. 1559.7 million in 1981-82 had gone down to Rs. 294.9 million in 1985-86.

Similarly, he said Pakistan's exports to China in 1984-85 amounted to Rs. 1033.7 million and imports were estimated at Rs. 2465.2 million.

Pakistan's main exports to China have been urea fertiliser, leather and leather products, minerals, marbles, cotton madepus, while Pakistan imports from China consist of: Chemicals, machinery, paper and paper products, tea, medical and scientific instruments etc.

The balance of trade is not only persistently against Pakistan but with the passage of time is growing. While there is an ample scope for trade expansion both in terms of value and variety, China should examine the possibilities of importing more goods from Pakistan.

The volume of such goods like surgical and dental instruments, sports goods, footwear, fruits, vegetables can be raised besides ensuring increase in the traditional items of export. Already the commercial contacts between China and Pakistan are growing through frequent exchange of trade delegations, commercial, literatures and businessmen and officials to each other's country on a large scale and holding of fairs and exhibitions etc, which would pave the way for further expanding the bilateral trade relations.

Mr Tawab said that Pakistan is now on the threshold of industrialisation and greater emphasis is being laid on the rapid development of iron-based and agro-based industries. Some beginning has already been made for setting up joint ventures in Pakistan through the collaboration of China.

Karachi Still Tense; Hyderabad Curfew Relaxed

*BK161543 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu
1500 GMT 16 Dec 86*

[Text] In Karachi, curfew was in force in most parts of the east and west districts today. Law enforcement agencies continued patrolling the affected areas. Most business centers, shops, and educational institutions remained closed and movement of government and private vehicles was withheld. The situation

remained tense throughout. Reports have also been received about violence in some parts of the city.

Hyderabad District officials announced that curfew will be relaxed for 2 hours from 0800 [0300 GMT] to 1000 [0500 GMT] tomorrow morning in Hyderabad and Latifabad.

Curfew was relaxed for 2 hours from 0800 to 1000 this morning. The situation in the city remained under control and there was no report about any untoward incidents from any part of the city barring some minor incidents such as burning tires and stoning vehicles on the roads.

Press Note Reports 2 Killed

BK161745 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu
1700 GMT 16 Dec 86

[Text] A press note issued by Karachi officials tonight says the overall situation remained peaceful and no untoward incident was reported. But law enforcement officials had to open fire on some people who were committing arson and violating curfew restrictions in Orangi, Manghopir, (Janwarat), (Panch Colony), and Liaqatabad police station areas, killing two people and injuring four. Curfew will be relaxed in the city tomorrow morning from 0700 [0200 GMT] to 0900 and in the afternoon from 1600 to 1700.

Ziaul Haq Urges Forging of Unity

BK161730 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu
1700 GMT 16 Dec 86

[Text] President Mohammad Ziaul Haq has assured the people that the government is taking every possible step to bring the situation in Karachi under control. He said this while addressing the people who gathered in large numbers at the hospital lawns after visiting the injured under treatment in Abbasi Shaheed Hospital in Karachi today. He urged the people to forge unity and to cooperate fully with the government in identifying the culprits to give them exemplary punishment. Later, the president visited the violence affected areas of Shah Faisal Colony and reviewed the loss caused by the miscreants. He expressed his sympathies with the victims and assured them that law enforcing agencies will fully protect them.

Junejo Calls for Stringent Action

BK170255 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu
1700 GMT 16 Dec 86

[Text] Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo reviewed the law and order situation at a meeting in Karachi this afternoon and instructed the local authorities to take every possible step to restore peace and order. He asked them to take stringent action against miscreants and antisocial elements.

The prime minister also met with editors this evening and discussed with them the situation prevailing in the city. He briefed them on the steps being taken to normalize the situation and to foster a spirit of brotherhood among the people. The editors also gave their opinions about the situation.

Meanwhile, a press note issued by the Hyderabad District magistrate says that after the relaxation in curfew restrictions today, a shop near (Takri Huzoor) was burned down and the records of the Settlement Survey Department were set on fire. The fire was controlled immediately, but the building was partially damaged. A truck was also set on fire in the (Phuleli) area of the city. There are also reports of some incidents of burning of tires and barricading of roads in various parts of the city.

Karachi Controlled; Curfew Relaxed

BK171122 Karachi Domestic Service in English
1100 GMT 17 Dec 86

[Text] In Karachi, curfew was relaxed for 2 hours from 0700-0900 [0200-0400 GMT] this morning and is being again relaxed about now for 1 hour. In Hyderabad, curfew was relaxed from 0800-1000 [0300-0500 GMT] this morning. No untoward incident has been reported from anywhere during the period.

Talking to newsmen in Lahore today, the federal interior minister, Mr Mohammad Aslam Khan Khattak, said the situation in Karachi is now under control. He said the government is conducting an inquiry into the recent incidents and results will be known very soon. The interior minister expressed deep grief at the loss of life and property in the recent riots.

Pakistan's Sind Governor Visits, Meets Hameed*BK111129 Colombo International Service in English
1045 GMT 11 Dec 86*

[Text] The governor of Pakistan Sind Province, Lieutenant General Jahandad Khan, paid a call on the minister of foreign affairs, A.C.S. Hameed, at the ministry in Colombo this morning. Gen Khan's visit is one of the series of high level meetings between Pakistan and Sri Lanka. It follows a very successful visit to Sri Lanka of President Ziaul Haq in December last year.

Gen Jahandad Khan reiterated the close links between Sri Lanka and Pakistan alluding to the importance of regional cooperation following the recent conclusion of the SAARC [South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation] summit in Bangalore. He discussed matters of mutual interest with Mr Hameed and also ways of increasing contacts at various levels between the two countries.

Gen Jahandad Khan will be in Sri Lanka until 16 December. During his stay here, he will visit several places of interest, including the vast Mahaweli scheme.

Report Considers Present Government 'Illegal'*BK130317 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0240 GMT 13 Dec 86*

[Text] The Sri Lankan Parliament witnessed uproarious scenes yesterday when opposition members protested against the government's motion to refer to a select committee a recent report of the election commission. The report has pointed out serious malpractices in the 1982 referendum in the country which extended the life of the then parliament by 7 years.

The opposition members charged that the motion moved by the prime minister, Mr R. Premadasa, was an attempt to stifle the voice of the people. The Sri Lankan Freedom Party MP, Mr Lakshman Jayakody, wanted guarantee that the opposition will not be prevented from bringing a vote of no-confidence on the issue.

The leader of the opposition told our Colombo correspondent, Plabon Majumdar, that the election commission's report has made the continuance of the government in office illegal.

AFP: Tamils To Declare Independence 1 Jan*BK121202 Hong Kong AFP in English 1151 GMT 12 Dec 86*

[Text] Colombo, Dec 12 (AFP)—Tamil separatists are to declare the establishment of an independent Tamil state in Sri Lanka on January 1, a usually reliable independent source in the north said Friday. Meanwhile the government reported four more deaths in the separatists' guerrilla campaign.

About 2,000 armed members of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam separatist group plan to march through the northern town of Jaffna to mark the declaration of the formation of an independent state called Eelam, the source said. The Tigers have distributed throughout Jaffna posters and handbills stating that all

public institutions and businesses there would be closed on January 1 to allow the people to take part in independence celebrations. At least two other Tamil separatist groups are likely to join the Tigers in their action, the source said. Sources in the security forces said troops in the north had been put on full alert.

Meanwhile the state Media Centre reported here that police had found the bodies of two Tamils and one Moslem abducted and then shot dead by Tamil guerrillas in the northeastern district of Trincomalee on Wednesday.

One civilian was killed and one member of the security forces wounded in fighting on Thursday between Tamil separatist guerrillas and government forces at Ariampattu in the east. Some 16 suspects were arrested and troops recovered 36 hand grenades.

Tamil guerrillas wounded three civilians and a policeman when they opened fire on a train from Colombo to Batticaloa just short of its destination later on Thursday, the centre said. The wounded were taken to hospital.

The separatists are fighting for an independent Tamil state in the largely Tamil north and east of Sri Lanka, a country where Sinhalese form the majority.

Muslims Propose Muslim Provincial Council*BK131215 Colombo International Service in English
1045 GMT 12 Dec 86*

[Text] A delegation from the Council of Muslims led by Dr Badruddin Mahmud met President Jayewardene last Wednesday [10 December] to present some proposals for a Muslim provincial council covering majority Muslim areas in the eastern province. Foreign Minister A.C.S. Hameed; Mr W.M.P.B. Manikwela, secretary to the president; and Mr Filix Dias Abeyasinghe, secretary to the political parties conference, were also present at the discussion.

In a statement issued later, Dr Mahmud said that they had pointed out that according to the 1981 census the 3,800 square mile eastern province had a 33 percent Muslim, 24 percent Sinhalese, and 43 percent Tamil population. The delegation had urged that the proposed Muslim provincial council should include the present Kalmunai, Samanthurai, and Pottuvil electorates in the Ampara District as its base.

The statement said that although the other proposed units are noncontiguous with the base, they were administerable from the base on the Pondichery model in India. Dr Mahmud said that the president had assured the delegation that its proposal will be given due consideration before any finality is reached on the matter.

Tamil Radio Criticizes India, PRC Over Dispute*BK131639 (Clandestine) Voice of Tamil Eelam
in English 1330 GMT 13 Dec 86*

[Text] China has protested strongly to India about the recent bill passed in the Lok Sabha which makes the territory of Arunachal

Pradesh the 24th state of the Indian union. China has claimed that the colonial rulers of India annexed Arunachal Pradesh at a time when China itself was very weak and unable to defend the integrity of its territory. In 1962, India and China went to war over the territory and China still claims 32,000 square kilometres of territory that is under Indian rule.

The most interesting question that arises here is why these two massive countries, beset with economic, administrative, and population problems, should wish to gain control of the poor, underpopulated area like Arunachal Pradesh. Even from the strategic point of view its value is limited. The answer, of course, lies in the eternal conundrum of power politics; a desire to acquire possessions, whether they be territorial or otherwise, is a necessary feature of the nation-state. The solution to the problem lies outside the whole concept of nation-states and has to do with self-determination. If India and China want a lasting solution to this problem, they should leave it to the people of Arunachal Pradesh to decide with whom they wish their future to lie. Of course it might be neither.

75 Reported Killed in Rival Tamil Clashes

*BK161133 Colombo International Service in English
1045 GMT 16 Dec 86*

[Text] LANKA PUWATH reports that about 75 terrorists have been killed in intense battles between the LTTE [Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam] and the EPRLF [Eelam People's Revolutionary Liberation Front]. Quoting Jaffna residents, it has [been] said that the war between the two rival groups had erupted as a result of the support extended by the EPRLF to Jaffna University students over the kidnapping of the undergraduate, Ambalavanan Vijitharan, allegedly by the LTTE.

[Words indistinct] report said that the LTTE was continuing its hunt for members of rival groups in an attempt to further strengthen their control over the north and the east. Last May, the LTTE killed the leader and more than 150 members of the Tamil Eelam Liberation Organization.

AFP Reports Further

BK150530 Hong Kong AFP in English 0516 GMT 15 Dec 86

[Text] Colombo, Dec 15 (AFP) — At least 50 members of two rival Tamil separatist groups were killed and over 300 others captured as factional fighting continued in northern and eastern Sri Lanka, reliable sources said Monday. Fighting between the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE), the most hardline Tamil separatist group, and the Eelam Peoples Revolutionary Liberation Front (EPRLF), which started Saturday, is expected to continue until the LTTE achieves its aim of wiping out the rival groups, the sources said.

The EPRLF has been mauled in the northern Jaffna peninsula with all its camps there attacked and taken over by the LTTE, the sources said. Over 300 EPRLF members have surrendered

and some of them are being held captive by the LTTE while others have been disarmed and sent away, the sources said.

LTTE officials were touring Jaffna town, the capital of the province, calling through loudspeakers on other EPRLF members to surrender, they said. Checkpoints in the town which had earlier been manned by the EPRLF were now under LTTE control, the sources said.

Nearly 50 separatists, mainly of the EPRLF, have died in clashes in the northern and eastern Sri Lanka, sources in the two provinces said.

The LTTE suffered its biggest reversal in northern Mullaitivu Saturday when eight of its members were killed in an attack by the EPRLF, they said.

Another rival group, the EELAM Revolutionary Organisation [of Students] (EROS) Sunday issued a statement in Jaffna condemning the LTTE attacks on the EPRLF, Jaffna sources said. EROS said that when Tamil separatist groups should be united in their fight to win their demands, the latest round of factional fighting was dissipating their efforts, they said. EROS has called an end to the internecine strife, the sources added.

The latest clashes between the rival groups came as Sri Lanka and India were preparing to resume their dialogue to find a solution to the separatist problem. Two Indian ministers, Palaniappan Chidambaram and Natwar Singh, were due to meet Madras-based separatist leaders and Tamil Nadu officials Monday to discuss the latest formulations by Sri Lanka on its peace package which aims at setting up provincial councils to give Tamils a greater say in running their affairs. The two ministers are expected to arrive in Colombo Tuesday for discussions with President Julius Jayewardene and senior ministers for possibly three days starting Wednesday, informed sources said. The main issue is the Tamil demand for a merger of the northern and eastern provinces with the LTTE insisting of establishing itself as the sole representative of the Tamil separatist movement, the sources added.

Delhi: 7 Killed in Violence in Batticaloa

*BK130859 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0830 GMT 13 Dec 86*

[Text] In Sri Lanka, seven persons were killed this morning in violence at Kalmunai in the eastern Batticaloa District. A violence sparked off when Tamil militants fired at a police patrol party, killing a subinspector and two constables and injuring two others. Following the incident some unidentified men killed at least four civilians, including a woman, in Kalmunai. A rice mill and a number of shops and houses were also set ablaze. Our Colombo correspondent, Plabon Majumdar, reports that an unofficial curfew has reportedly been declared in the area.

In an unconnected incident a village leader was shot dead by militants in Eravur hospital where he was undergoing treatment.

SAIRI Leader Opens 3d General Assembly Meeting
LD161839 Tehran IRNA in English 1815 GMT 16 Dec 86

[Text] Tehran, Dec 16. IRNA — The Third General Assembly of the Supreme Assembly of the Islamic Revolution of Iraq (SAIRI) titled 'Islamic Unity' was inaugurated here Tuesday, coinciding with the start of SAIRI's sixth term.

At the inaugural ceremony SAIRI Chairman Hojjat ol-Eslam Mohammad Baqer Hakim said that the sixth term starts at a crucial time when the Islamic Revolution has entered a new phase. Global arrogance has been forced to retreat and the Islamic Revolution has seriously asserted its presence in all arenas, he added.

Hoj. Hakim stressed that SAIRI is the axis around which the Iraqi Muslims' valiant struggle against the Baghdad regime revolves. Till the eventual toppling of the Iraqi regime and the establishment of an Islamic government in Iraq, all Iraqi opposition forces should actively participate in SAIRI affairs, he remarked.

A conference on Iraqi people's cooperation, involving all Iraqi groups opposed to the Ba'thist regime ruling Iraq is to be held in Tehran from December 22-30.

Hoj. Hakim said that most of Iraqi forces outside Iraq have announced their readiness to be actively involved in the struggle against the Baghdad regime. Various ways for coordinating these forces will be studied at the forthcoming conference, he added.

Head of the committee for Iraqi affairs Hojjat ol-Eslam Ahmad Salek also spoke at the ceremony saying that SAIRI is the only true representative of Iraqi people and duly recognized by the Islamic Republic.

SAIRI has always been at the forefront of the struggle against the Iraqi Ba'thist regime and should endeavor to gather all Iraqi dissident forces both in and outside Iraq under its umbrella to crown the final glory, said Salek.

Hoj. Salek outlining the issues to be discussed in the forthcoming conference said that the main topic will be Iraqi Muslims' efforts for expansion of political activities at international scenes. Among other issues to be discussed are ways for backing the dissident groups, the imposed war, as well as the Iraqi Ba'thist regime's violation of international norms and human rights, he added.

Spokesman on Downfall of Iraqi Regime
LD162012 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1630 GMT 16 Dec 86

[Text] In an interview to the press this afternoon Spokesman of the Supreme Assembly of the Islamic Revolution of Iraq Hojjat ol-Eslam Seyyed Mahmud Hashemi described the aims behind the convening of the conference of solidarity with the Iraqi nation. He said that the downfall of the Saddam regime in the near future was certain and, denouncing the French Government's recent decision to deliver 60 Mirage-2000 aircraft to Iraq

and Italy's step to give 6 warships to Iraq, referred to these moves as demonstrating their hostile stance toward the Iraqi nation.

Warning the arrogant countries and mercenary regimes in the region who are assisting Saddam against the system of the Islamic Republic of Iran, he also declared: Such deeds shall not go unanswered by the Iraqi nation and strugglers.

The SAIRI spokesman added: Bearing in mind the sensitive conditions determining the war — which will in turn determine Iraq's fate — and in order to create solidarity and unity in the field of armed struggle; to make use of the struggling Iraqi forces; to study the course of the revolution and Iraq's political future; to bring closer the viewpoints of the struggling Iraqi forces; and to clarify the minds of the world's people that despite the sinister and baneful propaganda conducted by the Saddam regime and world arrogance, the Iran-Iraq war is not one between the two nations' armed forces, but is rather that Iraq's various ethnic groups, viewpoints, and struggling forces, and that Islam's troops are waging a war against the 'Aflaqite Saddamist regime from a single trench, a conference will be convened between 24 and 28 December with the participation of all forces opposing the Iraqi regime.

He added: During this conference, five committees will be set up to study the strategy for a future Iraqi Government, the various methods for waging political struggle against the Saddamist regime on the international arena, the imposed war, and the manner of expanding the armed struggles of the Iraqi forces and human rights in Iraq.

In connection with the internal situation in Iraq and the morale of the Iraqi people who are along the path of serious struggle against Saddam, the spokesman of SAIRI said: According to reports received from inside Iraqi territory the situation in Iraq from economic, political, military, and security standpoints is increasingly weakening and the morale of the people and the Iraqi strugglers in waging their fight against the Saddam regime is extremely good. We are witnessing the breakdown and shakiness of the Saddam regime.

He added: The Iraqi people's morale with regard to participation in operations against the Saddam regime has soared and the people's fear and terror of this regime have subsided. The desertion of troops from the fronts and their refusal to serve as soldiers, the distribution of tapes and statements by fighting Iraqi personalities and the distribution of the publications of SAIRI and Islamic groups opposing the Saddam regime — all have spread among the Saddam forces, even among the Ba'thists. The Iraqi people are hoping that soon the satanical regime would be overthrown and that Saddam, too, will be relegated to the ash heap of history and that the revolutionary forces will return to their bosom.

In conclusion, regarding the form a future Iraqi government would take, the SAIRI spokesman said: The form and method of the future government of Iraq is an issue that will be determined and accepted by the will of the nation. In view of the wrongdoing of the non-Islamic countries, we both hope and believe that because the movement and course of our struggles

are Islamic, the government of this country, too, would become an Islamic one!

Abedi-Ja'fari Briefs Khamene'i on African Tour

LD161820 Tehran IRNA in English 1805 GMT 16 Dec 86

[Text] Tehran, Dec 16 IRNA — Commerce Minister Hasan Abedi-Ja'fari met president 'Ali Khamene'i here Tuesday and briefed him on the outcome of his recent visit to Mozambique, Tanzania, and Zimbabwe. The minister had carried President Khamene'i's messages to the heads of state of the said countries during his recent visit.

In the meeting Ja'fari informed the president that these African states were keen on expanding economic and trade relations with the Islamic Republic of Iran and also informed the president on trade agreements between Iran and these African countries.

President Khamene'i in reply stressed on expansion of Iran's political, trade, and cultural relations with the African countries.

Ja'fari, heading a delegation, began his tour of the said African countries on 30 November.

French Ambassador to Tehran Said Selected

WA171306 London AL-MUSTAQBAL in Arabic 29 Nov 86 p 10

[Text] French sources have affirmed that a prominent diplomat, Henri Servan, has been chosen to be France's first ambassador to Iran since the two countries' relations between them was downgraded to charge d'affaires. Servan is considered to be a prominent French expert on Middle Eastern affairs and particularly distinguished himself while he was occupying the post of French ambassador in Damascus for 5 years beginning in 1981. During his stay in Damascus, Servan established firm relations with a number of senior Syrian personalities. He also had strong relations with a number of Lebanese and Arab political personalities. However, the French sources explained that the French Government would not raise the level of diplomatic representation between France and Iran, and subsequently that its ambassador would not return to Tehran, until all the five French hostages being held in Lebanon are released or until "significant and important improvements" occur in Franco-Iranian relations.

Enavey Summoned Over Briton's Detention

LD162027 Tehran in English to Europe 1930 GMT 16 Dec 86

[Text] Following the detention of an armed British citizen, Nicholas Yanis Nicola, in the Mirjaveh border zone in Sistan and Baluchistan Province, Mr Chapman, the temporary head of the British Interests Section in Tehran, was summoned to the Islamic Republic of Iran's Foreign Ministry to render an explanation in this regard.

According to the *Islamic Republic News Agency*, some time ago the arrested British citizen shot at Pakistani border guards from

inside Iranian territory, and after an armed clash with Iranian Gendarmerie forces was detained. Based on this report the passport and English documents obtained from the said person increased the possibility that Britain had worked out extensive programs to engender regional confrontations and turmoil. It is to be noted that the officials of the Islamic Republic of Iran's Ministry of Information announced last week that a British spy named Roger Cooper, who had come to Iran under the disguise of a journalist, was arrested.

Meanwhile the Islamic Republic of Iran's responsible authorities are in search of other persons who have entered Iran and the region for the same purpose.

Clandestine Radio Comments on Hashemi Arrest

LD161408 (Clandestine) Radio of the Iranian Toliens in Persian 1530 GMT 15 Dec 86

[Summary from poor reception] At this point, we draw your attention to a recent press conference given by Minister of Information Reyshahri, the executioner of the Velayat-e Faqih regime.

Having engineered a television interview by Mehdi Hashemi, Reyshahri, himself, gave a press conference recently and commented on the activities of Hashemi. In this press conference, he accused Hashemi of trying to promote his deviationist ideology within the theological colleges, among the clerics, and within the Islamic Republic system. This appears to be the most serious accusation leveled against Hashemi, and this is the very core of the issue.

As far as the regime is concerned, it is perfectly acceptable to commit any offense as long as one does not entertain any independence of character or thought. "The arrest of Mehdi Hashemi and his group, which was carried out because of their revelation of the behind-the-scenes diplomacy pursued by the regime, could serve as a warning to all those who are not prepared to be identified with the treacherous policies advocated by the regime and, consequently, oppose it. Here, we are addressing those forces that do believe, within the context of sovereignty, in their homeland's independence and progress. These forces must break away from the anti-popular and the ruling reactionary ranks.

"To rescue the homeland from the (?yoke) of the black dictatorship of Velayat-e Faqih and its anti-popular and anti-national actions, join the revolutionary, democratic, and progressive forces."

Tehran Comments on Revolution, Individuals

LD161427 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0445 GMT 16 Dec 86

["On the Fringes of the News" program; unattributed commentary entitled "The Revolution and Individuals"]

[Text] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. Since the victory of the Islamic Revolution in our country, the revolution has constantly faced two external and internal issues. In

confronting foreign issues such as plots, coup d'etat attempts, attacks, and the imposed war, the Islamic Revolution has always been able to preserve its unity. All the members of the nation who created this revolution realize that the revolution survives solely through unity and obedience to the leadership in the face of crushing waves from abroad. All foreign plots have thus been foiled.

In confronting what occurs within the revolution — which of course is not unaffected by foreign factors — the revolution has easily overcome phases that seemed difficult. But, within the revolution, we have constantly faced the question of whether it is the revolution itself that is genuine, or individuals? Of course, from a certain point of view it should be considered that the revolution is not independent of the individuals in a nation which has created it, such as the society which has no external identity apart from its individuals. But naturally, alongside the general role of the nation in the revolution, certain individuals play assorted roles, according to their ability, in its organization. At the head of this group is the leader of the revolution, followed by government, revolutionary or cultural organizations, or persons in charge of them.

During the few years since the victory of the revolution our nation has been able to assess whether it is the revolution that is genuine, or whether it is individuals, or how far individual activities extend for the sake of the revolution. It is perfectly clear that if individual viewpoints become independent of the revolution and are implemented, it will lead to the revolution moving in different ways and collapsing. Cases such as Bani-Sadr, Qotbzadeh, the monafeqin [hypocrites], and most recently, Mehdi Hashemi, are all examples of viewpoints that were independent of the revolution. Of course, there is nothing wrong in simply expressing views; but if these views stand against the leadership of the revolution, or even go further, this situation is covered by this verse from the Hujurat chapter of the Koran which says: "O ye faithful, do not place yourselves above God and His messenger." — that is, the leadership of the revolution. For Rasul Allah was the first leader of the Islamic Revolution.

Those named, or those like them, were those who considered their views on the revolution so correct and absolute that they considered the quality and trend of the revolution wrong, since they did not conform to their views. They were so deep in their ideology that they considered it necessary to act to implement it. But each time the alertness of the leadership of the Islamic Revolution — which is entwined with the spirit of the revolution and also God's apparent watchful eye over the revolution — blocked these deviations.

These independent ideas, which result in nothing but the destruction of their owners, have been linked to both internal issues of the revolution and also the revolution's foreign connections. That is, their views not only concerned the quality and trend of the revolution, but also the role that the revolution should play in its foreign relations with the East and West.

All those who consider themselves to be part of the revolution should note that the Islamic Revolution is like a judge that always chooses the interests of Islam over those of the individual, hears nothing but the call of Islam, and does not give any verdicts or

orders except for Islam. The revolution has so far shown that when dealing with its foreign enemies or corrupt individuals within, it has no mercy. If it were otherwise, the revolution would deviate from its original course and become the plaything of any independent thinker.

For a nation striving in the pursuit of the line of the leadership, giving blood, and tolerating thousands of shortages and economic and psychological pressure for the preservation of the Islamic Revolution, it is very easy to witness the downfall of those who used to incite various people with their speeches to weaken the revolution. For a nation that has sacrificed everything for Islam and the preservation of the revolution, it is necessary to take notice of the leader and those who are endorsed by the leader; only of course, for as long as this endorsement continues. But those who think that they understand the interests of Islam and the revolution better than others, the nation, and the leadership, should learn a lesson from the fate of those who were trodden on by the revolution, so that they once again believe that it is the revolution that is true and genuine.

Advanced Gunboats 'To Beef-Up' Naval Power

LD161934 Tehran IRNA in English 1345 GMT 16 Dec 86

[Text] Bandar-e 'Abbas, Hormuzgan Prov., Dec 16, IRNA — Islamic Revolution's committees naval units are to deploy advanced gunboats as well as bullet-proof chaser boats for better surveillance on the country's southern coasts.

A committee official told IRNA here Tuesday that the said boats are being deployed in a bid to beef-up the naval power of the committees in their fight against smugglers of luxury goods and narcotics as well as to prevent illegal traffic along the Persian Gulf and Oman Sea shores.

Coast surveillance with (?the) advanced boats is to start soon, said the official. He also noted that the committees have seized smuggled goods worth about 40 million dollars since March 21, 1986.

The plan is being implemented also with a view to checking possible subversive operations along the southern borders of Iran, said the official.

Reportage on Combat Operations in War With Iraq

Residential Areas in Lorestan Hit

LD161602 Tehran IRNA in English 1534 GMT 16 Dec 86

[Text] Khorramabad, Lorestan Prov., Dec 16, IRNA — Some 22 civilians were martyred and 48 others, mostly women and children, wounded when intruding Iraqi warplanes bombed four residential and industrial areas in Do Rud at 15:00 hours (11:30 GMT) Tuesday. Fifteen houses were also destroyed in the bombardment and relief workers are searching for possible wounded under the debris.

Communique No 2,687**LD161557 Tehran IRNA in English 1542 GMT 16 Dec 86**

[Text] Tehran, Dec 16, IRNQ — Iraqi forces sustained heavy casualties and losses in artillery duels with Iranian Muslim combatants throughout the fronts on Monday, said a military communique here Tuesday.

Communique Number 2,687 released by the Joint staff Command of Iran's Armed Forces said that exchange of artillery fire continued in Ilam and Bakhtaran border fronts Monday raging somewhat more heavily in Naft-e Shahr operational theater as a result of which a considerable number of Iraqi soldiers were killed or wounded and one munitions dump was set ablaze.

A convoy of Iraqi heavy vehicles and trailer trucks carrying tanks on Naft-e Shahr-Mandali axis suffered substantial losses when it came under heavy Iranian artillery fire on Monday, the communique said.

In the southern fronts, the communique said, Iranian forces shelled Iraqi positions especially in Kushk and Bubiyan operational regions Monday inflicting heavy casualties and losses on enemy troops and setting fire to parts of their fortifications.

The joint staff communique furthermore said that Iranian Gendarmerie forces maintained their fire superiority over Iraqi troops in parts of the southern and western fronts Monday killing a number of enemy soldiers and destroying several vehicles of theirs.

An Iraqi tank was destroyed and its crew was killed when Iranian artillery fire hit key enemy positions and concentration centers of their armoured units in Panjwin, northwestern fronts Monday, said the communique.

Elsewhere, the communique said that movement of an Iraqi armoured column was checked in Nahr-e Anbar operational region, southern fronts, Monday. It added that enemy patrol boats were forced to flee in areas overlooking Khorramshahr by Iranian artillery fire.

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

18 DECEMBER 1986

Iran-Iraq War

An Iraqi communique broadcast by Voice of the Masses radio 17 December announced air strikes on oil-pumping stations at Tang-e Fanni, in western Iran, and on Iranian oil-loading platforms at the Ardeshir and Cyrus oilfields in the Gulf. Iraqi planes also hit a large maritime target off the Iranian coast 18 December, according to a military statement reported by INA. Although IRNA asserted that Iranian air defenses downed an Iraqi warplane in the Bakhtaran area 17 December, the claim was denied by an Iraqi spokesman cited by INA.

Responding to recent disclosures about U.S. intelligence assistance to Iraq, the Iranian Foreign Ministry said this clarifies Iraq's dependence on the United States and exposes the latter's partiality in the war. The Iranian statement, which was broadcast by Tehran radio, added that Iran condemns this "hostile and inhuman" U.S. action, though it stressed that such "puny deeds" will have little effect on the outcome of the war.

Iranian Protest to Kuwait

Iran has protested Kuwait's "inhuman and unlawful" action in expelling a number of Iranians by sea in a boat which sank en route for Iran, causing the death of at least 10 people, Tehran radio reported. The radio accused the Kuwaiti authorities of not allowing the deportees to use valid air tickets to leave the country, claiming that Kuwaiti officials misappropriated such tickets and sold them for private gain.

Lebanon

President Amin al-Jumayyil told Paris radio that he hopes to normalize relations with Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad, and he disclosed that dialogue between Syria and Lebanon has resumed "at a responsible level." Referring to the short-lived tripartite agreement, Al-Jumayyil said the Syrians had been "tempted" by proposals which were "very attractive" for Syria, but which could never have been applied. Both Syria and Lebanon paid a high price for this "adventurism," he added, but there is now more political realism "on all levels" and current initiatives could result in a "new approach" that will lead to a redefinition of bilateral relations.

As for the Palestinians, Al-Jumayyil said the Lebanese Government cannot accept a Palestinian armed presence in the refugee

camps, stressing that "we shall never accept the rearming of the Palestinian camps."

Israel

Rabin on Cuts — Finance Minister Moshe Nisim's new economic plan is "totally unacceptable" as it will harm security for the sake of higher living standards, Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin stated in an interview with Jerusalem radio. Confirming that he will vote against Nisim's plan, Rabin said the proposed 180-million shekel cut in the defense budget will spell the end for the Lavi aircraft project.

West Bank — An IDF soldier was attacked with an ax while patrolling in Ramallah 18 December, Jerusalem radio reported, noting that the Israeli was hospitalized with "medium" injuries.

Regarding the West Bank economic situation, the Amman paper *Akhbar Al-Usbu* reported that three more Jordanian banks are planning to open branches in the area. On the future of the Arab-owned East Jerusalem Electricity Corporation, Jerusalem radio reported that the Israeli authorities have agreed to extend the corporation's franchise for another 10 years in exchange for the latter's agreement to let an Israeli company supply electricity to Jewish settlements in Judaea and Samaria. According to *Hadashot*, Jordan is behind the agreement, while pro-PLO circles intend to fight against it.

Libyan and French Involvement in Chad

The Foreign Liaison Bureau summoned the French ambassador in Tripoli to protest France's "military moves" in Chad and the "escalation of its direct military intervention" in that country, Voice of Greater Arab Homeland radio reported. A Foreign Liaison Bureau source cited by the radio warned that in response to this situation, Libya will be "obliged to take its forces back to Chad."

The Libyan protest followed Paris radio's disclosure that French transport planes have dropped supplies and ammunition to supporters of former GUNT leader Goukouni Oueddei who are fighting against Libyan troops in the Tibesti region of northern Chad. A Chadian Government military communique broadcast by Ndjamena radio announced that Chadian "patriots" repulsed another Libyan offensive in Tibesti 17 December.

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Najibullah Informs Politburo of USSR Visit
LD151803 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto
1530 GMT 15 Dec 86

[Text] Today an irregular session of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo was held. The results of the visit by General Secretary of the PDPA Central Committee Comrade Najib, as head of the PDPA delegation to the Soviet Union for an official and friendly visit to that country, were assessed.

Comrade Najib presented detailed information on the most important consequences of the talks with the USSR's party and state leadership with CPSU General Secretary Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev.

The delegation again emphasized that the PDPA and the DRA Government have consistently strengthened the constructive dialogue with domestic and foreign political forces and will expand and consolidate its relations with all neighbors.

The Soviet leadership completely supported the efforts by the PDPA Central Committee and the DRA Government for achieving a speedy political solution to the situation around Afghanistan. It was noted in the talks that presently there are real possibilities for speeding up the process of normalizing the situation around Afghanistan. During the talks and meetings all political, economic, and military issues were discussed.

Both the leaders of Afghanistan and the Soviet Union expressed satisfaction over the concurrence of opinions on important and vital issues of peace and war and domestic and international issues.

Talks were held in a climate of sincerity, respect, and trust on the independence, sovereignty, and nonalignment of Afghanistan.

Comrade Najib gave detailed information to the session on the meaningful agenda of the delegation's visit, to Moscow, Tashkent, and Samarkand, and about the feeling of fraternity and friendship the Soviet people have toward the revolutionary people of Afghanistan.

The PDPA Central Committee Politburo on behalf of the party and people of Afghanistan, expresses heartfelt appreciation for CPSU General Secretary Comrade Gorbachev and the entire Soviet leadership for the warm welcome; for constructive, and meaningful talks; for deep understanding of the DRA's problems; and for determining a joint solution for the country's issues, which have piled up.

The Politburo highly assesses the work of the delegation headed by General Secretary of the PDPA Central Committee Comrade Najib during the friendly and official visit to the Soviet Union.

Chamkani Addresses Mangal Tribal Assembly
LD171945 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari
1600 GMT 17 Dec 86

[Text] Acting President of the Revolutionary Council and Presidium of the DRA Revolutionary Council Haji Mohammad Cham-

kani took part this afternoon in the broad traditional tribal assembly of the Mangal tribe, Paktia Province, which was held in the headquarters of the DRA Revolutionary Council.

The session began after reading a few verses from the Holy Koran. Then the acting president of the Revolutionary Council Presidium spoke in detail and said:

The warm welcome and enthusiastic support for the national reconciliation policy of the PDPA by the elders, chiefs, and all our people in the country proves that the wish of the party, government, revolution, and our people is to bring about reconciliation and national security in the country. Now it is the immediate duty of you elders to gather around the NFF [National Fatherland Front], which is the broadest political and social organization in the country and to take action for the sacred aspiration of defending peace and shielding the country's borders, for further consolidation of the new sovereignty, and for broadening the social pillars of the revolution.

Haji Mohammad Chamkani regarded the visit to the USSR of General Secretary of the PDPA Central Committee Comrade Najib and high-ranking party and government delegation of the DRA as a major new stage for the consolidation of Afghan-Soviet relations. In explaining the results and gains of this visit, he expressed gratitude for the fraternal and internationalist statement of General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Comrade Gorbachev, which said: We would not leave alone our southern neighbour in a difficult situation.

Babrak Mangal, Solaymankhel Mangal, A'qelshah Khan, and Haji Taza Gol then spoke on behalf of the Mangal tribe, and expressed delight and gratitude for the high results of Comrade Najib's visit to the friendly and fraternal USSR and the statements by the leaders of both countries; and they expressed their unreserved support for the humanitarian and humane efforts by the party and government leadership of the country for the restoration of national peace. They pledged to take practical action for the safeguarding and security of their region, and formation of border militias and tribal battalions, in accordance with the tradition of the Mangal tribe and the requirement of the PDPA.

The assembly ended after deciding on the creation of a peace assembly for the realization of the objectives of the national reconciliation policy among the Mangal tribe.

PDPA Sends Message on Vietnam Congress
LD170955 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0512 GMT 17 Dec 86

[Text] Kabul, December 16, BAKHTAR — A congratulatory message has been sent to Hanoi by the Central Committee of the PDPA on the occasion of the 6th Congress of the Communist Party of Vietnam.

Addressing the participants of the congress, the message says that the 6th Congress of the Communist Party of Vietnam is being held at a time when the international situation has become very dangerous due to the hostile efforts of the imperialist and reactionary forces.

Overcoming the existing dangers, the foiling of the interventionist and neo-globalism policy of Reagan administration, and prevention of the outbreak of a catastrophic nuclear war call for the concerted efforts of the forces of peace and progress in the world.

The message expresses confidence that the relations between the governments and parties of the two countries will be strengthened in the interest of the peoples of both countries and consolidation of peace and security in the world, including the Asian continent.

Full support has also been expressed in the message to the honest efforts of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam for the consolidation of peace, mutual understanding, and an atmosphere of confidence in South East Asia.

Reportage on Operations by Armed Forces

Faryab Province 'Dens' Assaulted

*LD171850 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto
1530 GMT 17 Dec 86*

[Text] A courageous assault by the Armed Forces on the satanic dens of the counterrevolutionaries in Pashtun Kowt and Shirin Tagab Districts, Faryab Province, has taken place. A number of murderers along with their ringleaders (Jan Mohammad) (Sarajoddin) and (Abdorrahim Pahlawan), belonging to the criminal band of Rabani, were killed.

A BIA correspondent reports that during these successful operations, mounted in cooperation with the working inhabitants of these areas, assorted weapons and ammunition of the enemy were seized. Also 3 Chinese rocket launchers, 3 heavy U.S.-made

machine guns, 30 assorted Egyptian and English manufactured weapons, and 8 surface-to-surface missiles that had been stored in a hideout by the counterrevolutionaries for intimidating and murdering our innocent people, were destroyed.

'Bandits' Captured in Balkh Province

LD180612 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0419 GMT 18 Dec 86

[Text] Kabul, December 17, BAKHTAR: Twelve counter-revolutionary bandits were captured and some were eliminated as a result of a mopping up operation of the Armed Forces of the DRA in Shingalabad, Dewali Maidan, and Shortepa villages of Balkh Province.

Recoilless cannons, Chinese rocket launchers, heavy machine guns, 114 ground-to-ground rocket launchers, 16 different American and Chinese weapons, and a great number of anti-personnel mines have been seized from the counter-revolutionary bandits.

Mujahidin Attack Soviet-Najib Forces in Faryab

*BK171535 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu
1500 GMT 17 Dec 86*

[Text] A delayed report from Afghanistan says that the mujahidin made a surprise attack on a military convoy near Pashtun Kowt town in Faryab Province which borders the Soviet Union on 22 November and inflicted heavy loss of lives to Soviet-Najib forces.

Ershad Returns After Visit to Saudi Arabia*BK141049 Dhaka Domestic Service in English
0700 GMT 14 Dec 86*

[Excerpt] President Ershad returned home this morning after concluding a 3-day official visit to Saudi Arabia. Begum Raushan Ershad accompanied him. The president and Begum Raushan Ershad were received at the Zia International Airport, among others, by Vice President A.K.M. Nurul Islam, Prime Minister Mizanur Rahman Chowdhury, ministers, chiefs of staff of three services, diplomats, high civil and military officials. [passage omitted]

Some 2,500 Prisoners Granted General Amnesty*BK160141 Dhaka Domestic Service in English
0110 GMT 16 Dec 86*

[Text] The government has decided to grant general amnesty to certain classes of prisoners on the occasion of the Victory Day. About 2,500 prisoners will be released under this general amnesty.

Paper Comments on Hasina Meeting in Delhi*BK151521 Dhaka THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER
in English 8 Dec 86 p 1*

[Text] Sheikh Hasina, Awami League chief and leader of the opposition in the Parliament, during her recent trip to India met Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi in New Delhi.

Although there has been no words on this meeting from Awami League, the government sources in Dhaka indicated the talks between Rajiv Gandhi and Sheikh Hasina centered round domestic political situation in Bangladesh. Sheikh Hasina, who went to India to bring back her children for winter recess, broke her journey at New Delhi before proceeding to Naini Tal. Sheikh Hasina's presence in the Indian capital coincided with Soviet Communist Party Chief Mikhail Gorbachev's visit to India.

Interestingly enough Bangladesh High Commission in India was involved in the meeting and was represented at the meeting by the Deputy High Commissioner. Sheikh Hasina on her arrival at the Delhi Airport was met by high ranking Indian officials. Why did Sheikh Hasina choose the Indian soil to announce party decision to join the coming session of Parliament is intriguing. This has been a very important decision and such decision should have been disclosed in Dhaka, political analysts viewed.

Editorial Views Gorbachev Visit to India*BK151620 Dhaka THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER
in English 6 Dec 86 p 5*

[Editorial: "Peace and Response"]

[Text] Soviet leader Mr Gorbachev's visit last week to the Indian capital came off amidst many eyes cocked up to it. India's neighbours, particularly Pakistan and China, were watching out for its outcome with more than usual interest. And quite nat-

urally, the former against a geopolitical setting rendered pretty tense with a live war across the border (Afghanistan) and relations with the other neighbour, India, much below par. India's belligerent-sounding words had punctuated a steadily plummeting bilateral relation over the twin questions of Pakistan harbouring Sikh extremists and building up a nuclear arsenal. As for Sino-Indian relations, they have been, by and large, correct ever since after the 1962 war.

Mr Gorbachev making his first visit to a neighbour with whom his country's friendship has been "long and tested out" was doing so, it would appear, with Reykjavik very much on his mind not necessarily the failure of it, at least the afterthoughts that usually follow great encounters.

But the trend of the Delhi meeting was set by the pre-visit statement he made on Afghanistan pointing to "a political settlement that was not far". The same level-headedness marked practically all his speeches and statements and, not least, the joint declaration issued. Though unexciting to those who had looked for drama of sorts, peace remained the centre-piece of the Soviet leader's entire performance. Its emphatic expression was in the broadest generality of peace in a nuclear free world. His proposal for collective regional security, (an idea which is yet to be sold to the countries in the region), reduction of military presence of the super-powers in the Indian ocean is of the same piece. But what was of particular regional interest — outside the generalities — was his offer of assistance on "an equal footing" to countries in Asia and the Pacific. Of peculiar relevance to the regional situation, was his emphasis on the improvement of "bilateral relations between the nations in Asia" for overall security. He called for "confidence-building" measures in the region.

This came pat against the background of declining bilateral relations and mounting bitterness, as, for instance, between India and Pakistan. To take him at his word, Mr Gorbachev appeared not to endorse such postures. This may have been a pleasant surprise to some and may be less than pleasant to others. Hence the response, since made known by Islamabad made Beijing to the Delhi-talks, is one of quiet welcome accompanied with hopes that Mr Gorbachev would be no party to anything that might militate against peace or confidence in the region. [sentence as received]

Just a little anticlimactic though this might be for India, she has however nothing to worry about. The second most populous country in the world, with the third largest army, with fresh assurances of new arms (Mig 29 among other military hardware) from Russia, and the General Electric F-404 jet engine, high technology etc. offers from U.S. Defence Secretary Mr Caspar Weinberger, earlier in October, seems to have the best of both worlds. Into the bargain is a friendship that has been enduring enough to see India through crises in the past and not likely to fail in the future. Given this and the cooperation reaffirmed by a super-power neighbour, India would stand to gain — and have little to lose — by initiatives toward promoting bilateral relations and helping usher in a process of peace and amity in the region. This happening, a ready response from the smaller neighbours can be taken as granted.

Gandhi: No Concession to PRC on Border Issue

BK180855 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0830 GMT 18 Dec 86

[Excerpt] The prime minister has said he does not propose to meet the leaders of the Gurkha National Liberation Front during his visit to Darjeeling tomorrow. Mr Rajiv Gandhi was speaking to newsmen on his arrival at Calcutta Airport this morning at the start of his 3-day tour of West Bengal. He was received by the governor, Professor Nurul Hassan; the chief minister, Mr Jyoti Basu; and others. According to agencies, Mr Gandhi and Mr Basu had a close-door half-an-hour meeting at the airport. Afterward, the prime minister said that he and the chief minister will meet in Delhi next month to discuss among other things the Gurkhaland agitation. He said they will also fix a date for their joint visit to Darjeeling.

Referring to the Chinese intrusion into Arunachal Pradesh, Mr Gandhi ruled out any question of making territorial concessions to China to resolve the border dispute. Our perception about our borders is very clear, he said. The prime minister, who is on his third visit to the state in the last 4 months, later left by road for North 24 Parganas District. Thousands of the people lined the roadside to greet him. [passage omitted]

Narasimha Rao Receives Visiting PRC Delegation

BK130402 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0240 GMT 13 Dec 86

[Text] A Chinese delegation led by Mr Liu Zhongde called on the minister for human resource development, Mr P.V.

Narasimha Rao, in New Delhi. They discussed various aspects of educational management in the two countries. Mr Liu is the vice minister of State Education Commission of China. [title, organization as heard]

Punjab Assembly Opposition Walks Out As Protest

BK171008 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0830 GMT 17 Dec 86

[Text] In the Punjab assembly, the Congress-I and the BJP [Bharatiya Janata Party] staged a walk out today during the Zero Hour in protest against the deteriorating law and order situation in the state. The Congress-I MLA's [members of the legislative assembly] boycotted the proceedings of the house for the rest of the day. Leading the walk out, the leader of the opposition, Mrs Gurbinder Kaur Brar, condemned the killing of six persons including the aged and children in Amritsar District on Monday evening. The chief minister, Mr Surjit Singh Barnala, while joining the members in condemning the incident described the boycott as unjustified in view of the scheduled discussion on the law and order situation in the house tomorrow.

Gunmen Kill 2 in Punjab's Faridkot District

BK181243 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1230 GMT 18 Dec 86

[Text] In Punjab, two persons were shot dead by some unidentified gunmen in (Rude) village of Faridkot District last night. The victims were sitting in their shop when they were attacked. The assailants escaped in the cover of darkness.

Ziaul Haq Receives Saudi Defense Minister
LD171438 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic
 1130 GMT 17 Dec 86

[Excerpts] His Royal Highness Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al 'Aziz second deputy prime minister, minister of defense and aviation and general inspector, met today with his excellency the Pakistani President Mohammed Ziaul Haq.

During the meeting, the friendly relations between the two fraternal countries were reviewed. [passage omitted]

The Pakistani president held a banquet in honor of His Highness Prince Sultan this afternoon.

Spokesman on Foreign Secretary's Moscow Visit
BK171211 Karachi Domestic Service in English
 1100 GMT 17 Dec 86

[Text] A Foreign Office spokesman in Islamabad today said the Foreign Secretary [Abdus Sattar] had useful meetings with the Soviet foreign minister, Mr Eduard Shevardnadze, and the first deputy foreign minister during his visit to the Soviet Union. These meetings focussed on concepts underlining the question of the timeframe for the withdrawal of Soviet forces from Afghanistan. He said the Soviet first deputy foreign minister has been given an open invitation to visit Islamabad for the continuation of dialogue on Afghanistan.

About the foreign secretary's visit to Paris, the spokesman said it was aimed at discussing the question of Pakistan's claim for compensation for the nonperformance of the contract regarding the construction of reprocessing plant in Pakistan in accordance with the bilateral agreement in 1976.

Yaqub Khan To Make 6-Day Visit to PRC 24 Dec
BK171625 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu
 1500 GMT 17 Dec 86

[Text] Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan will pay a 6-day visit to PRC next Wednesday [24 December] at the invitation of Chinese Foreign Minister Wu Xueqian. A spokesman of the Foreign Ministry said in Islamabad today that Yaqub Khan will exchange views with the Chinese foreign minister on matters, among other things, pertaining to the Afghanistan problem and will apprise him about the recent progress made on the issue.

Further Reportage on Violence in Karachi

Curfews To Be Relaxed
BK171621 Karachi Domestic Service in English
 1600 GMT 17 Dec 86

[Text] In Hyderabad, the district administration has announced that curfew will be relaxed in Hyderabad and Latifabad from 0800 to 1000 and again from 1400 to 1500 tomorrow.

Press Note Issued on Situation
BK171741 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu
 1700 GMT 17 Dec 86

[Text] A press note issued by the Karachi administration tonight says that there was no untoward incident today. Of course, during curfew relaxation there were sporadic incidents in which eight persons were injured. Among them two were injured in the firing by the law enforcing agencies. Karachi administration has announced that curfew will be relaxed in Orangi, Liaqatabad, Sohrab Goth, and Gul Bahar from 0700 to 0900 tomorrow and from 1500 to (?1630) tomorrow. Curfew in other areas of district east and west will be relaxed from 0700 to 1000 and from 1500 to 1700.

Junejo on Restoring Law, Order
BK180113 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu
 1700 GMT 17 Dec 86

[Text] Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo has said that the government is determined to stamp out the evil of narcotics and the people have responded positively to the government's commitment to root out this menace. He was addressing elected representatives, ulema, and notables from Sukkur, Hyderabad, and Karachi division in Karachi today. The prime minister said that during his meeting with people from various walks of life he found unanimity among them on the [words indistinct] steps taken against drug dealers. But the agents of drug dealers took undue advantage of the situation and fanned violence and attempted to sow discord among people and disrupt law and order, resulting in (?heavy) losses. He said that his government attaches prime importance to restoring law and order and it will fulfill its responsibilities in this regard. The participants of the [word indistinct] extended full support to government steps against drug dealers and deplored the acts of violence. They assured wholehearted cooperation to government in its effort to maintain law and order in Karachi and to restore normalcy.

Opposition on Government 'Failing'
BK180311 Delhi Domestic Service in English
 0240 GMT 18 Dec 86

[Text] The Pakistan opposition leader, Miss Benazir Bhutto, has accused the government of failing to protect the lives and property of the people of Karachi in the recent ethnic clashes. Addressing a news conference in Karachi yesterday, Miss Bhutto said the administration has clearly failed because it has no public support and it does not represent the people.

Meanwhile, top Pathan leaders and the Pashtun Students Federation have cautioned the government that ethnic clashes in Sind could spill over into other provinces if the government continued its policy of divide and rule. The leaders include the Frontier Gandhi, Khan Abdul Gaffar Khan; the Awami National Party leader, Haji Ghulam Ahmed Billour; and others.

Three more persons were killed in ethnic clashes in Karachi yesterday. Scattered clashes were also reported in different areas

of the city during the curfew relaxation period. Many parts of the city are under curfew and troops are patrolling the street.

AFP Reports Further

BK171645 Hong Kong AFP in English 1324 GMT 17 Dec 86

[Excerpts] Karachi, Pakistan, Dec 17 (AFP)—[Passage omitted] Miss Bhutto, co-chairman of the Pakistan People's Party (PPP), demanded the immediate dismissal of the Sind governor, Lieutenant-General Jehandad Khan, and Chief Minister Syed Ghous Ali Shah. [passage omitted]

Saying she and her party did not want to exacerbate ethnic tensions, nor were they out to take political advantage, Miss Bhutto asked: "Where are the so-called public representatives hiding now, and why do they not go to the riot-affected areas in the city?"

She also expressed deep concern over the tense border situation, saying: "We should not ignore the threat to our borders. We

should take it seriously. It is just not enough to say that (Indian Prime Minister) Rajiv Gandhi is a gentleman."

Pakistan, she said, "is facing a severe crisis when Indian troops are massed upon our borders and when carnage and massacre have been let loose in Karachi. The callous disregard shown for human life by this regime is beyond comprehension." "Never since the 1947 independence migration has so much blood flowed in the streets or such terror reigned" as in the recent riots, she said. Miss Bhutto added that PPP workers all over the country had been directed to aid the relief camps in Karachi.

Pakistan's internal and external problems could be solved if the political process was initiated, she held. "It is the conviction of the Pakistan People's Party that the survival of the country depends upon the political process by giving a sense of participation to the people and the federating units of the country," she said.

Jayewardene Views Report on Referendum*BK171455 Colombo International Service in English
1045 GMT 17 Dec 86*

[Text] President Jayewardene said yesterday that the report on the referendum had been submitted to a parliamentary committee, which includes MP's of the opposition as well. Mr Jayewardene made it clear that it is the Parliament which has the power to probe any irregularity in a referendum or general election.

Opening a new post office building in Kotahena in Colombo, the president said that there was a conspiracy to wipe out democracy from this land if late Hector Kobbekaduwa, who was a minister in the SLFP government, came to power in the last presidential election. If this happened, he said, it was not Mrs Bandaranaike but the Naxalite [extremist] group in the party which would have come to power. Therefore, the referendum had saved Mrs Bandaranaike from political ruin.

Speaking further on the referendum, the president pointed out that even politicians like Anura Bandaranaike and Maitripala Senanayake extended their support to the referendum. However, the report of the commission of election has referred to certain irregularities, which, he said, had taken place during the referendum.

Mr Jayewardene, who cited the Matugama byelection as an example, said that certain irregularities were common in any election. The president also explained how land, business ventures, and even newspapers were vested in the government during the period of the previous regime.

Clandestine Radio on Upcoming Indians Visit*BK180053 (Clandestine) Voice of Tamil Eelam
in Tamil 1325 GMT 17 Dec 86*

[Text] Two Indian ministers, Palaniappan Chidambaram and Natwar Singh, are to fly to the Sri Lankan capital Colombo this morning to hold talks with the Sri Lankan Government on the problems of the people of Tamil Eelam. Reports from Madras say that P. Chidambaram and Natwar Singh, who held continuous talks with the Tamil Nadu Government and leaders of the Tamil Eelam fighters in Madras yesterday, sincerely sought the response of the freedom fighters.

A spokesman for the freedom fighters said the talks went over the same old (?points), nothing new was put on the table, and it will be a waste of time to stress the same points again and again.

Reports say the leaders of the freedom fighters, who totally rejected the division of Eastern Province into three parts based on the ethnic groups, acted unitedly and firmly in the case of their Tamil motherland. Reliable sources say Mr P. Chidambaram

and Natwar Singh, who returned to New Delhi after the talks in Madras, will return to Colombo this morning after further discussions with government officials in New Delhi for talks with Jayewardene and his aides and important leaders of the opposition parties in Sri Lanka. It is to be noted that P. Chidambaram and Natwar Singh are to go to Colombo leading an Indian delegation only. Political observers say these talks will be final and there is no indication of their being successful.

Indian Ministers Arrive in Colombo*BK171319 Colombo Domestic Service in English
1245 GMT 17 Dec 86*

[Text] The two Indian ministers of state -- Natwar Singh and P. Chidambaram -- arrived in Colombo this afternoon for further talks with the Sri Lankan Government with a view to evolving a solution to the ethnic problem. Official sources told LANKA PUWATH that the two ministers are scheduled to meet President J.R. Jayewardene at 1900 [1330 GMT] this evening. The ministers are expected to spend 2 days in detailed discussions in Colombo. Earlier this week they held detailed discussions with the TULF and five terrorist groups in Madras. They returned to New Delhi yesterday and after consultations with Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi, flew into Colombo.

President Jayewardene told the Indian high commissioner in Sri Lanka, J.N. Dixit, yesterday that he is looking forward to seeing the Indian ministers and having discussions with them to (?reach) to a practical and durable solution to Sri Lanka's ethnic problem. The president informed Mr Dixit, who called on him, that he would keep himself free for detailed discussions with the Indian ministers from today to the 19th, Friday.

Mr Dixit said that the Government of India would like to ensure that the package of proposals [words indistinct] does not erode Sri Lanka's (?independence) and integrity.

Two Bombs Defused at Colombo Fort Substation*BK171200 Colombo International Service in English
1045 GMT 17 Dec 86*

[Text] Two plastic bombs weighing 20 kilograms and packed in a James Bond style briefcase were found by a (? night) watcher at the electricity substation in Colombo Fort at 0600 [0030 GMT] today. He immediately telephoned police and the Army bomb disposal squad, which rushed to the scene and defused the bombs. Police told LANKA PUWATH that if the bombs had exploded extensive damage would have been caused to the electricity substation and damage to the office complex adjoining the station.

Khamene'i Speaks on Upcoming SAIRI Conference

*LD171242 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1030 GMT 17 Dec 86*

[Text] According to a Central News Unit report, this morning members of the Supreme Assembly of the Islamic Revolution in Iraq (SAIRI) met with President Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i. In a speech at this meeting Khamene'i, expressing his gladness at the convening of the Conference on the Iraqi People's Cooperation [conference-e hamyari-ye mellat-e Iraq], addressing the members of the conference said: The convening of this conference is one of the best things undertaken by SAIRI. The president added: You are the best examples and symbols of the Iraqi strugglers. Today your entire group, namely SAIRI, is the best group to raise hope in the hearts of the Iraqi people and Iraqi struggling elements.

Khamene'i added: We would like to see all worthy Iraqi forces taking part in this conference. We have no expectations from two groups: first, the group which has the goal of fighting against Islam; second, those who have shown that they have always acted against the interests of the Iraqi people and whose hands have always been linked with the hands of the enemies.

In another part of his speech, the president said: For years the Ba'thist party and the Communists have destroyed the intellectual resources of the Muslim people of Iraq, which is a 1,000-year old center for the propagation of Islamic jurisprudence. It is the duty of SAIRI to prepare the future constitution for the economic, political, military, and administrative order of Iraq and to publish books on its political thesis and to present them to the Iraqi people.

He added: Today Iraq requires political experts, experienced fighters, and those who have been hardened in battle. It requires ideological savants and Islamic ideologies. In the future those people will gain popularity and acceptance among the Iraqis who have worked for the Iraqi people, whether politically or militarily. Today, you Iraqi fighters in Iran live as our dear and respected guests and you fight against the regime. By supporting you totally, the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran has placed its best capabilities at your disposal.

Khamene'i said: Fortunately, there are signs of victory in the battlefronts as well as on political battle grounds in the world. This is not something that only we feel. Many other people share our views concerning these facts. The East and West have concentrated all their efforts on assessing their situation after the downfall of the Iraqi regime. We can see the signs of these exchanges of opinion in various trips and in various positions taken by politicians.

Concluding, while giving necessary guidelines, the president called on the members of SAIRI to adhere to unity and solidarity and said: In battle one needs unity, religion, reason, and patience. One should endure difficulties and problems.

According to this report, Chairman of SAIRI Hojjat ol-Eslam Hakim presented a report about the preparations made for the convening of the Conference on the Iraqi People's Cooperation

and the readiness of the Iraqi people and strugglers for a wide-scale battle against Saddam's regime.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani Comments

LD171754 Tehran IRNA in English 1735 GMT 17 Dec 86

[Text] Tehran, Dec 17, IRNA — Officials in charge of the Conference on Iraqi People's Cooperation (Dec 24-28) met with Majlis Speaker Hojjat ol-Eslam Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani, here Wednesday. The conference officials briefed Hoj. Rafsanjani on the agenda of the upcoming meeting to be held in Tehran.

Majlis Speaker Rafsanjani stressed that all Iraqi dissident groups should be allowed to participate in the conference. He said special attention should be paid to promote greater unity and involving Iraqi Muslim people in the scene. The hojjat ol-islam told the officials that it was absolutely essential that the masses should enthusiastically participate in a revolution. He added that the conference should enunciate its policies on Iraq's independence and territorial integrity.

Majlis Speaker on Islamic Revolution Leadership

LD171928 Tehran IRNA in English 1855 GMT 17 Dec 86

[Text] Tehran, Dec 17, IRNA — Majlis Speaker Hojjat ol-Eslam Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani said here Wednesday that the Islamic Republic of Iran has completely frustrated attempts of enemies of the Islamic Revolution to isolate it. Rafsanjani made the remark in a speech to a group of visiting officials in charge of holding ceremonies marking the anniversary of the victory of the 1979 Islamic Revolution during the ten days of Fajr (February 1-11). The speaker also called on the officials to conduct a counter campaign against anti-Islamic Revolution propaganda raised by certain foreign mass media. The invulnerability of the revolution as well as its resiliency should feature prominently in the campaign, the speaker said. "Islam is the key to our victories," he added.

Rafsanjani said that the leadership of the Islamic Revolution guarantees the solidarity and unity of the Iranian nation. Such leadership cannot be found in Lebanon or any other place in the world, he added. The Majlis speaker noted that the world now lacks effective leadership. The Islamic system of government in Iran, he noted, is based on the sovereignty of the supreme religious leader (velayati-e-faqih) and is free of all blemishes. "The Iranian people are firmly committed to their Islamic values," Rafsanjani asserted.

Sudan's Prime Minister Arrives for 4-Day Visit**Welcomed by Musavi**

*LD171107 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1030 GMT 17 Dec 86*

[Text] According to a Central News Unit report, at the official invitation of Prime Minister Mir Hoseyn Musavi, Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi, prime minister and defense minister of the Republic

of the Sudan, arrived in Tehran today at the head of a high ranking political, economic, and cultural delegation for a 4 day official visit.

According to this report, the Sudanese prime minister was welcomed at the airport by Prime Minister Mir Hoseyn Musavi; Minister of Defense Colonel Jalali; Minister of Mines and Metals Ayatollahi; Deputy Prime Minister in charge of political affairs Mo'ayyeri; a number of Majlis deputies; the deputy foreign minister; and a number of political and economic figures, foreign ambassadors and diplomatic representatives stationed in Tehran.

According to this report, Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi is accompanied on this visit by the Sudanese minister of energy and mines; a number of members of the Constituent Assembly; and a number of political, economic, and cultural figures of Sudan.

Begins Talks With Musavi

*LD172003 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1630 GMT 17 Dec 86*

[Text] The first round of talks between the high-ranking delegations from the Islamic Republic of Iran [IRI] and the Republic of Sudan were held at the Prime Ministry Office in the presence of the two countries' prime ministers this afternoon. During this round of talks, attended by prominent members of the two countries' delegations, the basis and foundation for strengthening the two countries' relations were specified. Sudanese Prime Minister Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi, referring to the need for establishing unity among the Islamic nations, said: Strengthening unity between Sunnis and Shi'ites has an Islamic (?precedence) because we, in accordance with our belief in God Almighty, the mission of the prophet — may Allah's benedictions and peace be upon him and his scion! — and the book of God, have the same beliefs.

In connection with the things commonly shared by the two countries, Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi confirmed: Despite the regional propensities involving the two countries, there are extremely clear points in their bilateral relations that bring the IRI and the Republic of Sudan closer together. Indeed, both countries move within the framework of systems which have overthrown debased regimes following a popular revolution. The peoples of both countries believe in Islam, which has adopted the stand of defending the meek within the country and of salvation from international arrogance.

Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi also said: We have come to Islamic Iran to acquaint ourselves with the experience of applying Islamic beliefs and tenets under the present circumstances of the IRI.

Then Prime Minister Musavi, in connection with the significance of unity among the Islamic nations, said: One of the greatest aims of our Islamic Revolution is establishing unity among the Islamic nations; thanks to the guidelines issued by the leader of the Islamic Revolution, this unity has been realized between our Sunni and Shi'ite brethren in Islamic Iran. These guidelines enjoy a worldwide scope.

Musavi emphasized: We attach special importance to establishing unity among the Islamic nation and believe that the issue of unity should be the subject of discussion both from the scientific and political viewpoints!

The prime minister said: The two countries have a great many things in common: things shared that have Islamic motivations as their bases and foundations. We believe that the Islamic motivations that strongly exist among our people also exist within the Muslim nation of Sudan, as evidenced by the Sudanese people's uprising against the Numayri regime, which supported a deviationist Islam and was an apologist of the overlordship of the arrogant systems.

The prime minister emphasized: Under the circumstances when the colonialists are hatching plots against the Islamic world, there are great motivations for establishing unity among the Islamic nations, among those, one may include the mobilization of all efforts for the liberation of Holy Jerusalem and for waging struggle against world arrogance.

Mr Musavi added: We see extremely clearly the benefits of the two countries' relations for the Islamic world and believe that mutual assistance and cooperation — the covenant of which could be formulated in accordance with Islam — would bring immense blessings for all the Islamic countries.

In conclusion, referring to the factors for the victory of the Iranian people in the various phases of the Islamic Revolution, the prime minister said: As we have experienced, whenever we rely on God and the believing Muslim people during our difficulties, we become victorious!

According to the same report, the two delegations then conducted specialist technical talks on a high level. The prime ministers of the two countries specified the framework for strengthening bilateral relations.

Also attending this round of talks were Minister of Mines and Metals Ayatollahi and the political deputy prime minister, on behalf of Iran; the Sudanese minister of energy and mines, and the two delegations' experts from various ministries, and the parliaments of Iran and Sudan.

Meets Cultural Revolution Council

*LD181206 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1030 GMT 18 Dec 86*

[Text] Prime Minister of Sudan Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi, on a visit to Tehran leading a high-ranking political, economic, and cultural delegation, met the members of the Supreme Council of Cultural Revolution at Tehran University this morning. During the meeting, also attended by the prime minister's political deputy, Ahmadi, the imam's representative to the Supreme Council of Cultural Revolution, expounding on the role and significance of science in the country's Islamic system dwelt on the changes that have taken place in the educational system following the victory of the Islamic Revolution, saying: Following the victory of the Islamic Revolution our universities became Islamic in all areas.

According to our correspondent's report Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi, too, recounted the two countries' common viewpoints on Islamic and cultural problems. Announcing the fact that Sudan is determined to hold a forum, entitled the Conference of Islamic Thought, he called for an exchange of views and joint efforts with the cultural officials of the Islamic Republic of Iran (IRI).

He then referred to the denominational differences between the Muslim countries, barring those from the Sunni creed from the practice of religious jurisprudence and the subservience of Muslim ulema to rulers, as among the causes for the Muslims distancing themselves from one another and added: These factors have caused the Muslim nations to accept any Western thought. In conclusion he emphasised the need for the return by all the Islamic nations to a genuine Islamic culture.

The report further says that the prime minister of Sudan, at the conclusion of the meeting, visited the central library documents center of the College of Sciences and the biochemistry and biophysics international research center of Tehran University.

Indian Industrial Development Minister Visits

*NC170625 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
0330 GMT 17 Dec 86*

[Text] The Central News Unit reports that India's Minister of State for Industrial Development Mr Arunachalam arrived in Tehran last night. He is scheduled to hold talks with a number of Iranian officials and was welcomed by Minister of Heavy Industries Mr Behzad Nabavi.

In an interview with our correspondent, the visiting Indian minister of state said: I am very happy to be here in the Islamic Republic of Iran. An Indian delegation is currently in Tehran to identify various areas of industry suitable for bilateral cooperation. During our stay we will try, through discussions with Iranian officials and participation in special committees, to study these ties and to reach agreements.

Views Barter Exchange With Nabavi

LD171733 Tehran IRNA in English 1632 GMT 17 Dec 86

[Text] Tehran, Dec 17, IRNA — The Islamic Republic of Iran is prepared to have barter exchange deals with India with a view to securing the two countries heavy industrial requirements, announced Iran's Minister of Heavy Industries Behzad Nabavi in the first round of talks with visiting Indian Minister of State for Industrial Affairs Arunachalam, here Wednesday.

The Indian official said that his country is to put its industrial experiences and expertise at the disposal of the Islamic Republic as well as benefit from Iran's know-how in the field.

Arunachalam said that India is prepared to cooperate with Iran in establishing cement plants, manufacture of passenger and cargo train cars, as well as road-construction machinery. He said India is willing to help Iran in the industrial sector in addition to promote the export of products in the area.

The Indian minister furthermore said his country has been a purchaser of Iranian crude oil for many years and New Delhi is willing to buy Iranian non-oil goods as well.

In response, Nabavi expressed hope that delegations of the two countries would accurately assess areas in which Tehran-New Delhi could collaborate. He added that the Islamic Republic is interested in barter exchange deals with India. The Iranian minister also noted that goods traded between the two countries should be of internationally accepted quality and be standardized. It is essential that the quality of the goods not be ignored, Nabavi said.

Nabavi furthermore called on the Indian Government to participate with Iran in joint investment schemes, noting that the Islamic Republic is not opposed to the involvement of a third country in such projects. Existing problems as well as obstacles in the two countries' industrial relations were also discussed at the meeting.

The Indian minister arrived here Tuesday night at the head of a delegation.

U.S. Aid to Iraq, 'Nonimpartiality' Viewed

*LD171756 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1630 GMT 17 Dec 86*

[Text] The Foreign Ministry of the Islamic Republic of Iran today issued a statement announcing: The news of U.S. intelligence and military information assistance to the warmongering regime of Iraq, disclosed by the mass media, and the confirmation of this disclosure by White House officials, once again, in addition to clarifying Iraq's dependency and affiliation with the United States more than ever, also exposed the non-impartiality of the United States in the imposed Iraqi war and U.S. opposition to the Islamic Republic of Iran in a most prominent manner.

The arrogant U.S. Administration that encouraged Saddam in attacking the Islamic Republic of Iran has not refrained in all these 6 years of holy battle being waged by the people of Iran from providing every kind of direct and indirect arms, intelligence, and political and economic assistance to that inhuman regime. This is a reality that the Islamic Republic of Iran was well aware of from the very start of the war, and has said so.

Even though the publicizing of this issue by the U.S. mass media is presently aimed more at reducing political pressure on the Reagan administration and on the CIA — which is presently under pressure due to the disgraceful defeat of the U.S. Administration in its foreign policy — this itself clearly shows the U.S. role in fanning the flames of war in the world.

The Islamic Republic of Iran, while condemning the United States' hostile and inhuman act of sending intelligence and military information assistance to the Iraqi regime, believes that this action is a continuation of and along the same line as other aggression and interference of U.S. arrogance in its confrontation with liberation and independence-seeking nations, and declares that these kind of puny deeds undertaken to protect and maintain the decrepit Iraqi regime, have not had much effect on

the fate of the war. The combatants of Islam will not rest until they have eliminated the tyrannical regime ruling over Iraq and have vindicated their just right.

UN Notified of U.S. 'Hypocrisy' in War

LD180955 Tehran IRNA in English 0750 GMT 18 Dec 86

[Text] Tehran, Dec 18, IRNA — The Permanent Bureau of the Islamic Republic of Iran to United Nations sent a letter to the Secretary-General of UN Javier Perez de Cuellar proving the U.S. hypocrisy of being 'neutral' in the Iraqi imposed war.

Pointing to the recent disclosure of the Central Intelligence Agency's (CIA) intelligence reports to the Iraqi regime concerning Iran's industrial centers, the letter said the savage Iraqi air raids during the past weeks caused the death of several innocent civilians.

The letter also added that the U.S. political, military, and intelligence support of the Iraqi Ba'athist regime has encouraged its criminal policies in the imposed war even spurning international requests to observe war regulations.

Qom Theologian Lauds Khomeyni on Hashemi Case

LD180018 Tehran IRNA in English 1747 GMT 17 Dec 86

[Text] Qom, Central Prov., Dec 17 IRNA — Chairman of the Assembly of Experts and Secretary of teachers' association of Qom Theological School Ayatollah 'Ali Meshkini lauded the leader of the Islamic Revolution for having ordered an investigation into the case of former head of the global liberation movements department of the Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps (IRGC) Mehdi Hashemi and his accomplices.

In his letter to the founder of the Islamic Republic, Meshkini called for a meticulous and impartial trial of Hashemi and his group. The future spiritual leader of the Islamic Revolution, Ayatollah Hoseyn 'Ali Montazeri, too, made a similar appeal on Monday.

Ayatollah Meshkini also praised imam for having prevented the arrested group from jeopardizing Islam and harming theologians and theological schools.

Mehdi Hashemi and forty of his accomplices have been arrested and interrogated on charges of murder, assassination, kidnapping, collaboration with former Iranian secret police, SAVAK, and attempting to subvert the Islamic Revolution.

Montazeri Relatives Deny Ties With Hashemi

LD180801 Tehran IRNA in English 0743 GMT 18 Dec 86

[Text] Qom, Central Prov., Dec 18, IRNA — Said Montazeri and Seyyed Hadi Hashemi, son and son-in-law of Ayatollah Hoseyn 'Ali Montazeri, in a statement here Wednesday, categorically denied any ideological ties or organisational cooperation with the former head of the liberation movement bureau, Seyyed Mehdi Hashemi.

Seyyed Hadi Hashemi who is also the head of Ayatollah Montazeri's office, and Said Montazeri referred to plots of imperialist powers, foreign radios, and the Iranian fugitives who are exploiting Mehdi Hashemi's relationship to the Montazeri family through marriage for their ominous plans.

The statement added that as per Imam Khomeyni's firm orders and also Ayatollah Montazeri's instructions, charges against Mehdi Hashemi, both before and after the revolution should be impartially investigated and Islamic justice should prevail, before which all are equal.

The statement described the enemies' efforts to exploit relationship of Mehdi Hashemi with the Ayatollah as "malicious plots", which by distorting realities on one hand aim at portraying disputes among Iranian officials and on the other hand are trying vainly to weaken the Islamic Revolution through promoting deviative tendencies.

These plotters, the statement stressed, should remember that the decisiveness of the leadership of Imam Khomeyni successfully thwarts all plots of both the East and the West.

They reaffirmed their allegiance to the imam and prayed for victory of the Islamic combatants in the imposed-war, at the end of the statement.

Embassy in Kuwait Protests 'Unlawful Action'

LD171827 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 17 Dec 86

[Text] Following the arrest and deportation of a number of Iranians lawfully residing in Kuwait and the sinking of the motor launch carrying them in the sea, the Embassy of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Kuwait in two separate notes to the Kuwaiti Ministry of Foreign Affairs has protested that inhuman deed and has declared:

Some time ago, a number of Iranians lawfully residing in Kuwait were arrested by Kuwaiti state officials, and, without any lawful justification, were ordered to be deported. Unfortunately, the Kuwaiti officials, without considering their lawful wishes or human and Islamic principles, deprived the Iranians, who had spent many years contributing to the growth and development of Kuwait, of the right to choose the means of their return to their country — preferably by air. On 16 November they expelled them from Kuwait by motor launch, which unfortunately sank along the route. As a result, 10 died and several others were lost without a trace.

Another part of this note read: According to statements by the relatives of the expelled and other eyewitnesses, some of those expelled even had plane tickets, but despite their collective insistence to leave by air at their own personal expense, the Kuwaiti authorities did not pay the least attention.

Concluding the note, the Embassy of the Islamic Republic of Iran to Kuwait expressed its protest against any expulsion of Iranians by sea and against the perishing of a number of Iranians due to

mistreatment by Kuwaiti officials and called for the investigation and questioning of the relevant officials.

In this connection, the Kuwaiti charge d'affaires to Tehran was summoned yesterday by the political director general for Arab and African countries at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran, and a protest was lodged against this inhuman and unlawful action by the Kuwaiti Government. During the meeting, the political director-general of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, while declaring that the Islamic Republic demands a stringent investigation and an official Kuwaiti Government report on this issue, considers the Kuwaiti Government to be a partner in these crimes. He also referred to the lack of communication to the Iranian Embassy in Kuwait prior to the expulsion of these Iranians as an action running counter to international laws, and alluded to this action and the torture of detained Iranian nationals in Kuwait as the height of improper treatment of Iranian nationals.

According to this report, according to certain Iranian expellees, certain Kuwaiti officials have misappropriated plane tickets of Iranians that are enclosed in their passports and sent to the Kuwaiti Foreign Ministry. Approaching airline ticket offices and introducing themselves as the friends of the detainees, they cash in the tickets and keep the money for themselves. Among such officials can be named Muhammad Khaldu, a Kuwaiti security official who has often resorted to such deeds after showing his identity card and using threats.

Sudanese POW's Request Government 'Pardon'

LD161939 Tehran IRNA in English 1855 GMT 16 Dec 86

[Text] Tehran, Dec 16, IRNA — In an interview with the print and broadcast media here Tuesday a group of 10 Sudanese prisoners of war requested pardon from the Islamic government and expressed hope that they would be allowed to go to their home country. They said during their captivity in Iran they had learned a lot about the Islamic Republic and the cultural and religious values in Iran which had totally disproved hostile propaganda against the Islamic government.

The group of Sudanese prisoners of war were captured during military operations by Iran's Muslim combatants code-named Khaybar in February 1984. They said the Baghdad government initiated the war with Iran and is the aggressor party in the conflict. They called on other Sudanese soldiers to desert the Iraqi Army.

Sudanese soldiers now with the Iraqi Armed Forces were sent to Iraq upon order by former Sudanese President Ja'far Numayri. The Baghdad government has banned their return to Sudan and is keeping them with the Iraqi troops under intimidation.

The group of Sudanese POW's asked Iran's pardon. They also called on the Iraqi soldiers not to carry on the fight with the Islamic Republic "which is the symbol of Islam." They said they had personally witnessed deployment by the Iraqi Armed Forces of lethal chemical weapons against Iran's Muslim combatants in the battlefronts, but added that the devotion, the self-

commitment, and the resolution of Muslim combatants had in every instance prevailed over the Iraqi military hardware.

The POW's also said that in their camps in Iran they are provided with all sorts of amenities, and that the behaviour of their Iranian captors has been "very friendly." They expressed hope that Iran's Muslim combatants would eventually triumph over the Iraqi forces.

WIH Spokesman Comments on Egyptian Detainees

*LD171155 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1030 GMT 17 Dec 86*

[Text] A spokesman for the War Information Headquarters [WIH] has announced: With regard to the request made by a group of Islamic and militant personalities of Egypt for the release of Egyptian subjects arrested in Persian Gulf waters, the regime of Egypt is trying to take advantage of the situation to deceive public opinion in Egypt.

He added: During the imposed war a group of Egyptian mercenaries have fought against the forces of Islam, side by side with the forces of the Iraqi regime, and now a number of them are detained in our camps as mercenaries. The case of these mercenaries is quite different from that of those who were not engaged in the war and are suspected of having been involved in intelligence gathering in the Persian Gulf waters. He continued: The responsible officials of the Islamic Republic of Iran are now studying these individuals' cases and if they prove not to have been espionage agents they will be released and handed over to an Egyptian Islamic organization or militant figures.

The WIH spokesman added: There are no Egyptian prisoners of war in Iran. The Egyptian subjects, detained by the Iranian authorities, are either mercenaries or suspected of spying. Therefore, the abuse of the present situation by the Egyptian authorities, trying to pretend that Mubarak's regime cares about the fate of that country's subjects, should not divert the attention of the Muslim people of Egypt from that regime's crimes. For if the Egyptian regime were really interested in the fate of the Egyptian citizens, then first it would not have allowed the Iraqi regime to use them as mercenaries in the imposed war instead of fighting against the usurping Israel; and, second, it would have tried to do something for the release of its subjects as soon as they were captured. However, for some time the Egyptian regime denied that there were any Egyptian forces in the war at all, and now in this opportunist move it is taking advantage of developments to deceive its own people.

Cabinet Session Considers Conditions in Prisons

*LD171247 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1030 GMT 17 Dec 86*

[Text] According to a Central News Unit report, during today's session of the cabinet, after reviewing the main domestic and foreign events, a report was presented on the progress of the Islamic Republic of Iran's proposal to end the clashes in Lebanon. Afterwards, the supervisor of the country's prisons submitted a report to the cabinet on the situation in the prisons and the

number of prisoners, including those detained on charges of drug trafficking, members of the counterrevolution, and perpetrators of vices and forbidden deeds. In part of this report, while denying reports of Zionist affiliated organisations and the mass media on the number of the prisoners and their plight, he referred to conspiracies of foreign powers and their internal agents as an attempt to create an adverse climate because the Islamic Republic system is against their interests.

He said: The establishment of the Intelligence Ministry and approval of bills by the powerful foundations of the Islamic Republic of Iran have played a significant role in reducing the effects of conspiratorial and counterrevolutionary moves. He added: After assigning the task of training the prisoners to the Islamic society, the number of prisoners dropped to the lowest figure possible.

Continuing this session, a sum of over 1 billion rials, collected from revenues saved by the Defense Ministry and its subsidiaries, the defense industries, ETCA [arms manufacturing unit affiliated to the Defense Ministry], and other centers and also 1 day's salary donated by the employees, was submitted to the government for building schools and health centers in the flood-stricken areas. The sum was placed at the disposal of the flood relief headquarters, set up in the prime minister's office.

Reportage on Combat Operations in War With Iraq

Iraqi Plane Downed Over Bakhtaran

LD171453 Tehran IRNA in English 1445 GMT 17 Dec 86

[Text] Bakhtaran, Dec 17, IRNA — An Iraqi warplane was shot down here at 11:30 hours local time (08:00 hours GMT) Wednesday by Iranian anti-aircraft fire. There is yet no immediate report on the fate of the plane's pilot and a search to find him is underway.

The downed Iraqi plane was among a group of enemy jet fighters which attempted to bomb residential areas in this western city but failed.

Communique No 2,688

LD171611 Tehran IRNA in English 1535 GMT 17 Dec 86

[Text] Tehran, Dec 17, IRNA — Iraqi forces sustained considerable casualties and several enemy tanks and many vehicles were destroyed in artillery duels with Iranian Muslim combatants throughout the fronts Tuesday, said a military communique here Wednesday.

Communique Number 2,688 released by the Joint Staff Command of Iran's Armed Forces said that exchange of artillery fire continued in the southern and western fronts Tuesday raging somewhat more heavily in Kushk and Mehran operational theaters as a result of which Iraqi forces suffered heavy casualties and losses.

In the northwestern fronts, the communique said, Iranian forces shelled Iraqi positions especially in Piran Shahr Tuesday killing a number of enemy soldiers and destroying some light as well as heavy vehicles of theirs.

Iraqi armoured units in the southern operational theaters of Hoseyniyeh and Yabis incurred substantial losses Tuesday when they came under Iranian artillery fire, the communique said.

Elsewhere, the communique said that Iranian forces reconnoitered and shelled Iraqi positions in Marivan, northwestern fronts, Tuesday inflicting several casualties and losses on enemy troops. Reconnaissance flights of enemy helicopters were also checked.

Iranian Gendarmerie forces suppressed Iraqi military operations in parts of the western and southern fronts Tuesday inflicting heavy casualties and losses on enemy troops and destroying parts of their fortifications. They also carried out successful intelligence-gathering missions in Dehloran.

According to the communique, Iraqi engineering operations were disrupted and enemy armoured units suffered considerable damage in Mehran, Helaleh, and Qasr-e Shirin operational theaters by Iranian artillery fire Tuesday.

Iraqi engineering operations in Nahr-e Anbar as well as reconnaissance flights of enemy helicopters in Zayd and Talayeh were checked Tuesday, the communique said.

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

19 DECEMBER 1986

Iran

U.S. Relations — Majlis Speaker 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani told a Friday prayer meeting that the United States should hand over the billions of dollars of Iran's blocked assets, and he stressed that Iran is calling on Lebanese Muslims to free their U.S. hostages, Tehran radio reported. However, he said the United States should not call for the establishment of ties with Iran because that is a separate issue.

Sudanese Visit — Reporting on Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi's talks with President 'Ali Khamene'i, IRNA cited the Sudanese prime minister's remark that his country seeks to strengthen and expand political, ideological, and intellectual relations with Iran. Al-Mahdi subsequently attended a ceremony marking the reopening of the Sudanese Embassy in Tehran, the agency said, adding that the two countries will exchange ambassadors in the near future.

Italy and the Iranian Ship — An Iranian diplomat in Rome announced that Iran will file a law suit against the Italian Government over the detention of an Iranian cargo ship in Genoa, IRNA reported. The ship was allowed to leave Genoa 19 December but the diplomat said its detention since 11 December had caused "great financial loss." He said the ship had been detained on the basis of "rumours" spread by the "counterrevolutionary monafeqin," a reference to the Mojahedin-e Khalq. A Rome radio report on the ship's departure noted that Genoa dock workers called off a strike after being informed that the Iranian stowaway aboard the vessel had said he was not a victim of political persecution.

Iran-Iraq War

An Iraqi spokesman cited by INA announced that Iraqi fighter planes downed an Iranian F-14 over the Gulf 19 December.

Earlier, Tehran radio reported that an Iraqi pilot who recently defected to Iran in a Sukhoy-22 issued a televised message in which he urged other Iraqi airmen to follow his example.

Iraq

Voice of the Masses radio announced the death of Light Industry Minister Tariq Hamad al-'Abdallah, who died in a "regrettable accident" after lengthy suffering from "an incurable disease and depression."

Lebanon

Voice of Lebanon radio reported renewed Amal-Palestinian artillery exchanges in Beirut 19 December and also noted an outbreak of fighting between Syrian forces and Islamic Unification Movement gunmen in the northern port of Tripoli.

The possibility of a Lebanese-Syrian summit meeting was discussed at an 18 December Amal Movement Political Bureau meeting, according to Beirut radio, which added that the bureau warned against attempts to "mislead" the people and raise false hopes. The pro-Amal Voice of National Resistance radio cited a statement by Amal leader Nabih Birri castigating Libyan leader Colonel Mu'ammarr al-Qadhdhafi as an "agent" and a "sectarian."

In South Yemen, PDRY Chairman Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas told a visiting PLO executive committee member that Amal's attacks on the camps in Lebanon are benefiting "the Zionist enemy," Aden radio reported.

Syria

President Hafiz al-Asad's call for an international committee to define and combat terrorism was formally submitted to the UN secretary general in a letter from the foreign minister broadcast by Damascus radio.

Libyan Involvement in Chad

Acheikh ibn Oumar, the Libyan-backed GUNT leader, warned that GUNT will be obliged to seek "direct Libyan military intervention" if France continues its military "escalation" and "aggression" in Chad, Voice of Greater Arab Homeland radio reported. In related remarks reported by Tripoli radio, he spoke of a "U.S.-French joint plan" to consolidate President Hissein Habre's regime and to attack GUNT and Libyan forces.

Reporting on the military situation in Chad, AFP noted Libyan troop movements toward the Tibesti town of Zouar, adding that forces loyal to Habre have arrived in this zone to assist supporters of former GUNT leader Goukouni Oueddei. In France, Foreign Affairs Minister Jean-Bernard Raimond warned Libya that French forces will go into action if Libyan forces penetrate southward across the 16th parallel, according to Paris radio.

Israel

Opposition to Nisim Plan — The Labor Party Bureau expressed support for Labor Party ministers and Histadrut leaders in their opposition to Finance Minister Moshe Nisim's new economic plan, Jerusalem radio reported.

Security — Police searched two Yeshivas in Jerusalem 19 December in an attempt to find explosives, Jerusalem radio noted. A police source cited by *The Jerusalem Post* indicated that investigations into a recent sabotage attempt in the city point to the existence of a new Jewish "underground."

Jerusalem radio also cited an official announcement that security forces have arrested an Arab "terrorist ring" in the Tulkarm region of Samaria.

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Politburo on Growths, Shortcomings in Nangarhar

*LD190046 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari
1600 GMT 18 Dec 86*

[Text] A routine session of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo has been held. The Politburo assessed the work and activities of the party provincial committee of Nangarhar Province, concerning the implementation of the organizational and political issues in light of the 19th plenum's demands.

The Politburo pointed out that the party provincial committee of Nangarhar Province has carried out specified duties in various spheres toward implementation of the 19th plenum's decisions. Reconstruction affairs, growth of criticism and self-criticism, objective assessment of the activities of the party committees and primary organizations, and discussion of the tasks discussed in the 20th Plenum of the PDPA Central Committee, have been dealt with in a special manner by the provincial party committee in Nangarhar.

As a result of joint activities by the Zonal Defense Council of the provincial party committee and Armed Forces units in Nangarhar Province, decisive blows have been inflicted on the armed counterrevolutionaries in Kameh, Dakkah, and (?Maru), and their ammunition and storage places have been destroyed.

In holding elections to local organs and state administration, training and education issues, public health, culture, industry, transportation, communications, and land reform and water, specified successes have also been achieved.

Control over the implementation of the plenum's resolutions has improved. The level of demands from the members of party has increased. The campaign against negative phenomena such as bribery, embezzlement, and other misuse has been advanced.

The Politburo pointed out that despite the accomplished work, there are shortcomings and weaknesses in the work of the Nangarhar Provincial Party Committee. The conscription plan for the Armed Forces has not been implemented regularly and systematically. The party committee has not adequately used its possibilities in crushing the counterrevolutionaries in some regions. The expansion and consolidation of state power has been slow. The party provincial committee has not implemented the socioeconomic growth plans with necessary effect, as result of which some productive establishments have not implemented their plans.

Work has been weak in attracting the party trademen, small landholders, national businessmen, theologians, local influentials, leaders of tribes, women and inhabitants of border tribes.

In connection with training cadres, improvement of the activities of the literacy courses and work among teachers and students, possibilities have not been used effectively.

The Politburo gave specific instruction for removal of these shortcomings to the party provincial committee and concerned state bodies of Nangarhar Province.

The issue of receiving compatriots in Delkosh Palace, organizational issues, cadre issues, and a number of domestic and international issues were also assessed in this Politburo session.

Armed Forces Crush Rebels in Nangarhar

*LD181843 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto
1530 GMT 18 Dec 86*

[Text] Another group of counterrevolutionaries who had nested in Dehbal subdistrict, Nangarhar Province, in order to carry out terrorism and subversion, were crushed recently as a result of successful operations carried out by the courageous Armed Forces. Their satanic nest was destroyed.

BIA's military correspondent reported that, as a result of these successful operations, 1,388 surface-to-surface missiles, 3 recoilless guns, 3 ZK-1's, 1 mortar, 1 antitank weapon, 3 heavy machine guns, 17 other weapons, 3 radios, 1 generator, 50 boxes of various ammunition, and 1 drilling machine were seized by the Armed Forces. Moreover, 35 enemy ammunition, foodstuff, and clothing depots together with 36 positions for resistance were destroyed.

The BIA military correspondent adds that a meeting held on this occasion by [word indistinct] inhabitants of Jalalabad City and the personnel of the companies involved in these combat activities, Chief of Staff of the DRA Armed Forces Major General Shah Nawaz Tanay, recalled with appreciation the heroism and sacrifice of the personnel who took part in these combat activities. He commended those officers, NCO's, and men who displayed heroism during the operation and presented them with commendation certificates, gifts, and rewards.

Rebel Arms Depot Exploded, Six Killed

LD190625 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0451 GMT 19 Dec 86

[Text] Kabul, December 18, BAKHTAR — A big depot of arms and ammunition belonging to Mavlavi Khales band was exploded in the area of Boghra mountain in Chaman, Qonetta.

Six bandits attached to Mavlavi Khales band were killed and ten were injured. The arms and ammunition which were stockpiled in this depot were set to fire.

The reports reaching here say that one tractor loaded with the arms and ammunition of counter-revolutionaries was exploded in Parachinar region by the youth of Tori tribe and was destroyed.

The Tori youth also attacked for the second time the camps of Shah Kakh and Ghazgari belonging to the Afghan counter-revolutionaries and inflicted heavy human and financial casualties to the residents of the camps.

Six persons were killed and twenty one injured in a bomb's blast in Peshawar City. The people of Peshawar City have staged protest demonstrations in which they have described the presence of the Afghan bandits as the reason for the lack of security of the people.

PRC Protest Casts 'Shadow' on Future Talks*BK171901 Delhi General Overseas Service in English
1340 GMT 17 Dec 86*

[Text] Every single move China made regarding its border claim in the past 25 years had long-term strategic barometers. This seems to be special in the case when a Foreign Ministry spokesman in Beijing characterized as illegal Indian parliament bill to confer statehood on Arunachal Pradesh straddling along the McMahon Line in the northwestern sector. The Chinese rejection of the bill almost ironically coincided with the fifth anniversary of first round of India-China official-level talks that began in Beijing on 10 December, 1981 to bring about a settlement of the border issue. So far seven rounds of talks have been held.

As far back as December 1959, China, through an official note, rejected India's position that the entire Sino-Indian boundary ran along the main watersheds. India has maintained that according to international usage a customary boundary which follows such unchanging natural feature stands defined that does not require formal definition by two sides. Much has happened since then. But the Chinese claim to Arunachal Pradesh and adjoining areas, spread over 128,000 square kilometers of Indian territory, continued to be pressed.

China nearly succeeded in debarring Indian participation in the Asian parliamentarians conference on population control held for the first time in Beijing in October 1981. The plea given by the Chinese side was that the speaker of the Arunachal Pradesh legislative assembly would not be allowed to be included in the Indian delegation. A last minute settlement of the issue enabled the speaker and other Indian parliamentarians to participate in the conference. China created another unseemly situation the following year on the concluding day of the Asian Games hosted by India in New Delhi. Obviously, Arunachal Pradesh as being part of India participated in the ASIAD. But the Chinese contingent could not accept the dance item presented by Arunachal dancers on the occasion and protested. The incident totally marred and blurred the achievements of the Chinese contingent which won 51 gold medals and proved the country as number one Asian sporting nation after years of [wandering in the] wilderness.

Of late, China has been speaking of the feelings of its people regarding the border issue. Commenting on adoption of Arunachal Pradesh by Indian parliament, the Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman conceded that a traditional customary boundary respected by two peoples had not taken shape on the basis of administrative jurisdiction. It is anybody's guess if China is attempting to clear their pitch to frustrate an early solution to the border question by pre-emptive protests. Almost on the morrow of the seventh round of India-China border talks in July this year, China threw the spanner by making fresh intrusions 7 kilometers deep inside the Indian territory in Arunachal Pradesh. Obviously, it cast a deep shadow over the talks.

What better proof could there be of Indian parliament step to confer statehood on Arunachal Pradesh than the state chief minister, Mr Gegong Apang's reaction to the Chinese protest. Mr Apang said the Chinese stand is unfortunate and (?assertive)

and I quote: We have no tie of any form with China and they have nothing to do with the welfare of Arunachal people.

The Chinese protest was unwarranted and ran counter to Beijing's protestation that it stood for a comprehensive settlement of the boundary question through friendly consultations. Not surprisingly, India reacted sharply to the Chinese protest calling it totally unacceptable and constituting a clear interference in the internal affairs of India. With the Chinese protest on the Arunachal Pradesh bill a long shadow is cast on the future round of border talks. India has not been averse to holding talks with China on the boundary issue. But to make the talks meaningful China must come forward with concrete proposals.

'Disturbed Area Belt' in Nagaland Reduced*BK181645 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1530 GMT 18 Dec 86*

[Text] The center has decided to reduce the disturbed area belt in Nagaland and Arunachal Pradesh from 20 km to 5 km along the international boundary. A notification to this effect was issued in New Delhi today. Originally, only 5 km had been declared as disturbed in 1972. The area was increased to 20 km in October last year to allow the Army to operate in a wider belt for controlling insurgency by Naga rebels who have been operating from across the border.

'Struggle' Against Terrorism in Punjab Urged*BK180101 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1530 GMT 18 Dec 86*

[Text] The Punjab chief minister, Mr Surjit Singh Barnala, has stressed the need for launching a collective struggle against terrorism in the state by rising above petty politics and other narrow considerations. He was replying to a discussion in the assembly on the law and order situation. He called for the isolation of those who are encouraging such activities. The chief minister said a 10-member committee has been set up to persuade the families which have left the state to return to their homes.

Mr Barnala urged the center to ask Pakistan through diplomatic channels not to help terrorists in Punjab. He announced that the government will provide security to judicial officers dealing with cases of terrorism. The motion was tabled by all political parties. Members expressed their concern over the deteriorating law and order situation. They called for implementation of the Punjab accord, security of life and property of people, and strengthening of patriotic and secular forces.

'Terrorists' Apprehended on Border With Pakistan*BK181642 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1530 GMT 18 Dec 86*

[Text] A BSF [Border Security Force] patrol party apprehended two hardcore terrorists on the Indo-Pak border when they were trying to cross over into Pakistan on Tuesday [16 December]. A press release in New Delhi says that preliminary inquiries have revealed that one of them has recently returned to India after

receiving training in handling of small arms at a camp near Sialkot. The terrorists disclosed that they had brought some arms and ammunition from Pakistan which were delivered to the AISSF [All India Sikh Student Federation] leaders in the Golden Temple complex.

USSR 'Expert' Says War No Cost to Moscow
BK191205 Islamabad THE PAKISTAN TIMES in English
 11 Dec 86 p 6

[Article by Richard Ehrlich [not further identified] "Who Is Bearing the Cost of Soviet Intervention in Afghanistan?"]

[Text] New Delhi, India — A senior Soviet official says the war in Afghanistan does not cost Moscow "one cent," because the Afghans are supplying natural gas and other products to the Soviet Union.

The statement by Yuriy Gankovskiy, a Soviet expert on Afghanistan, marked the first time any Soviet official has said the war in Afghanistan does not cost the Kremlin money.

Moscow has consistently given the impression the war is a sacrifice by Soviet citizens doing their "internationalist duty" to aid the Kabul government that "invited" Soviet troops to enter in 1979.

Western diplomats and Afghan resistance fighters, however, have frequently charged that the Soviets are exploiting Afghanistan's natural gas, dried fruits, Persian lamb pelts, carpets, and cotton.

One Western diplomat, who described Mr Gankovskiy's remarks as "bizarre," said the Russians may be trying to dispel the impression in the West that the war in Afghanistan is financially draining Moscow.

Mr Gankovskiy, who formed part of Mikhail Gorbachev's delegation during the Soviet leader's Nov 25-28 visit to New Delhi, also denied Soviet soldiers are committing atrocities in Afghanistan. Mr Gankovskiy said the only innocent Afghans being killed are those unintentionally caught in cross fire or attacked by U.S. backed resistance fighters.

Diplomats and international organizations frequently report Soviet atrocities, including the destruction of villages, indiscriminate use of chemical weapons and antipersonnel explosive devices resembling toys, and Soviet presence at the torture of rebel captives.

Mr Gankovskiy said he has specialized in Afghan affairs for the past 25 years and makes frequent trips to the war-torn nation.

Mr Gankovskiy is head of the Near and Middle East Department in the Institute of Oriental Studies of the USSR Academy of Sciences; he also specializes in Iran, Pakistan, Northern India, and Bangladesh.

Mr Gankovskiy said in a taped interview that Afghanistan does not pay in cash, "but on the clearing basis, we are paid for everything which we are sending to Afghanistan."

Asked if this includes all costs of the war in Afghanistan, Mr Gankovskiy replied, "It is impossible to pay for blood, but all our expenses, I stress 'all' twice, are paid by Afghanistan."

"And may I say how? There is a giant gas field in the northern part of Afghanistan, and by supplying the gas, Afghanistan is paying us for everything."

"Believe me, I know that I say. [sentence as published]"

I have now no records here, no files, so I don't want to give you incorrect figures, but the fact I know."

"It means we are supplying Afghanistan with cars, with weapons, with some kinds of food, and with shoes," he said.

"We have very good trade with Afghanistan, and Afghanistan is supplying us not only with gas. Gas is first of all, but also with fruit, with skins and agriculture, cotton."

Asked if it were thus correct to say the war does not cost Moscow any money, Mr Gankovskiy said, "To say frankly, not one cent. And this is reality."

When the Soviet troops first intervened in Afghanistan, Afghan resistance forces charged that in addition to Moscow's strategic goals, the Kremlin wanted to exploit the country's relatively untapped natural gas fields and other resources, including mineral deposits.

In an interview with Indian journalists broadcast in India and published by the Soviet news agency TASS No 23, Mr Gorbachev said, "we are neither going to have any bases nor are we looking for raw materials in Afghanistan."

The Western diplomat, reacting to Mr Gankovskiy's statements, said, "It sounds like a calculated effort by the Russians to counteract the notion they feel prevails in the West that if you can keep the war going, you can economically drain them until they leave."

"We believe it is costing Moscow a significant amount of money, but if they want to stay there, they can afford to stay. We do not believe you can bleed the Soviets economically and militarily into withdrawing," the diplomat said.

Mr Gankovskiy also said that though the Afghan Government's leaders seized power in a series of coups before Soviet troops arrived, the communist Afghan regime still had a right to represent Afghanistan.

"Don't apply European or American standards to societies like (the) Afghan society," he said, when asked about Babrak Karmal. Mr Karmal became Afghanistan's Marxist leader in a coup as Soviet troops rushed into the country seven years ago. He recently lost power and was replaced by the Soviet-trained security chief, Najibullah, who uses only one name but sometimes is called Mohammad Najibullah.

"Afghanistan was not and is not a parliamentary republic in the Western sense of the word, no question about it. Afghan people had and have no tradition of this kind," Mr Gankovskiy said.

"Of course you are right, there were no elections, there was no plebiscite. But there is real support" for the Marxist Afghan Government, he said.

USSR Envoy Optimistic About Afghan Solution
BK190123 Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English
 11 Dec 86 p 8

[Text] Karachi, Dec 10—Soviet Ambassador to Pakistan Abdul-Rakhman Khalil Ogly Vezirov, who expressed deep optimism about a political settlement of Afghan question in the 'near future', said 'people may hear good news very soon.'

He was replying to questions by newsmen after his address at 'Meet the Press' programme at the Karachi Press Club here this afternoon.

Asked to explain reasons for his optimism Vezirov said the Soviet people are generally optimistic, and listed following points in support of his hopefulness.

(a) Positive developments inside Afghanistan such as successful process of reconciliation, reforms pertaining to land and other sectors of life (b) Realisation that the war being waged from outside is senseless and not going to succeed (c) A general desire everywhere for a settlement (d) UN Representative Cordovez has himself stressed the progress made in the talks and (e) The very fact that Kabul and Islamabad have agreed to go to Geneva again.

He, however, refuted Western propaganda that the only problem to be solved in regard to Afghanistan was forcing the Soviets to withdraw their troops. He said troop withdrawal is interlinked with the stoppage of 'interference in the internal affairs of Afghanistan'. He said the Soviet Union by withdrawal [as published] six regiments unilaterally has proved its sincerity to have a political settlement at the earliest.

He said Mr Gorbachev in his statements in New Delhi has made it abundantly clear that the Soviet Union wanted to see Afghanistan as a secure, independent and non-aligned state, he pointed out.

Replying to a question he said Afghanistan is not a socialist state but passing through a 'National Democratic Revolution'.

He told a questioner that it was 'at the Soviet initiative that Pakistan's Foreign Secretary visited Moscow and had talks with the Deputy Foreign Minister and he is confident that the outcome of these talks would further improve relations between the two countries.

He denied a suggestion that the Soviet proposal for Asian security was aimed at 'establishing Soviet hegemony in Asia' and said it was the reverse of it as the proposal provided guarantees against 'hegemony of any one country over the others; according to him the Soviet scheme envisages a nuclear free Pacific and a nuclear free Indian Ocean.

Asked to explain the factors behind the recent internal changes in Afghanistan such as replacement of Babrak Karmal etc. Vezirov said the Kabul administration is striving for a grand reconciliation, it is proceeding with speedy development activities such as land reforms etc. and improving defence as well as economic situation. He said it was because of improvement in defence situation that the Soviet Union was able to withdraw six regiments.

He told a questioner that contradictions within the capitalist world and those in the socialist camp are not similar. What happened in Hungary and Poland was issues connected with and arising out of 'development'. He said differences with China which is a socialist country have narrowed down and the two are developing friendlier relations.

Earlier he explained the fundamentals of Soviet foreign policy and said the main international task of the Soviet Government is to promote peaceful co-existence and make the world free of nuclear and destructive weapons. Messrs Aftab Syed and Sabihuddin Ghausi, President and Secretary of the Karachi Press club respectively welcomed the distinguished guest.

Saudi Defense Minister Ends Visit, Departs
BK180620 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu
 0600 GMT 18 Dec 86

[Text] Saudi Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Defense Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz left Islamabad this morning for home after a 2-day visit to Pakistan. He was seen off at the airport by Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan and senior officials.

Curfew Lifted, Relaxed in Some Karachi Areas
BK181737 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu
 1700 GMT 18 Dec 86

[Text] Karachi administration has lifted curfew from Baldia town site and Pir Mangho police station areas. Curfew will be relaxed in the rest of the curfew-bound areas of Karachi District west from 0700 to 0900 and 1300 to 1500 tomorrow. Curfew will be relaxed in Landhi, Korangi, Malir, (Jet) colony, and Sohrab Goth areas from 0700 to 0900 and from noon to 1500. Curfew will be relaxed in Sabzi Mandi from 0700 to 1000 and from noon to 1500. And in (Jet Line) from noon to 1500. The situation was normal in the whole city today. It is officially announced in Hyderabad that curfew will be relaxed in Hyderabad and Latifabad areas from noon to 1600.

Kalashnikov Ammunition Seized in Karachi
BK181531 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu
 1500 GMT 18 Dec 86

[Text] Police seized about 42,500 cartridges which are used in Kalashnikov rifles, in Karachi today. Official sources say that an inquiry is underway and efforts are being taken to nab the key culprit.

U.S. 'Objectives' Detailed in Friday Prayers*LD191329 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1030 GMT 19 Dec 86*

[Text] The political-religious Friday prayer rites were observed throughout the country today. The citizens of Tehran, too, with their vast presence at Tehran University and the surrounding thoroughfares, today observed Friday prayers under the imamate of Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Hashemi-Rafsanjani.

During Tehran's Friday prayers ceremonies, also attended by Sudan's Prime Minister Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi, together with the high-ranking Sudanese delegation, Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Hashemi-Rafsanjani in his second Friday prayers sermon referring to the fiasco suffered by the vast U.S. efforts aimed at establishing links with the Islamic Republic of Iran [IRI], said:

Despite the admission by imperialist and Zionist media of the fiasco of U.S. attempts to establish links with Iran, they are pursuing two objectives: First, they wish to attribute the outcome of the imposed war, which is victory by the IRI, to U.S. weapons, and not to the Iranian nation; and, just as McFarlane has said, the United States cannot tolerate an Iranian victory: the United States is attempting to render Iran's victory suspect by such manner of propaganda.

Their second objective, since they fear that other countries, too, will be embroiled in the struggle against world arrogance, is their attempt to say that the IRI is not against arrogance and is not anti-U.S. By this, they mean to beset the Third World nations with vacillations regarding their own struggles against world arrogance.

The speaker of the Islamic Consultative Assembly, referring to the regret felt by U.S. bosses about the stances adopted by that country toward the IRI since the victory of the Islamic Revolution, said: In spite of all its might, the West has suffered defeat at the hands of Iran; this is the greatest achievement by the Islamic Revolution in Iran and in the history of world revolution.

The speaker of the Islamic Consultative Assembly also said: The illegal entry of McFarlane and his associates, bearing false Irish passports, into Iran demonstrates the helplessness of the United States vis-a-vis Iran; in the course of these events, they told so many lies, showing their willingness to sacrifice the interests of the U.S. nation to their interests. They imagined that other nations cannot stand up to the United States, but it became clear that, should a nation refuse to be afraid and resist, it could inflict the same scourge on the United States that the latter wants to inflict on them, and thereby bring about a crisis situation for the United States — just as the Italian Government, after the propaganda insult, apologized to the IRI; and the Italian prime minister, too, in connection with the arrest of the Iranian ship in Italian waters, personally declared the action unlawful and released the said ship.

Referring to U.S. admissions to passing on intelligence gained from its spy satellites on the warfronts to the Iraqi regime, and the fact that Reagan admitted that he had no documents in his

possession on Iran's participation in terrorist operations, Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Hashemi-Rafsanjani said: When responsible officials of the IRI inform the nation of various problems, they speak with the truth and with candor. We do not trample underfoot our principles for any price whatsoever. Our nation's concerted stand, thanks to the rule by the Supreme Canonist and the leadership of the imam, is reliant on the belief and faith of the people. The fact that the system of the IRI, as the best system for human societies, has strongly and steadfastly stood the propaganda bombardment of Islam's enemies, constitutes one of the glorious achievements of the IRI.

Referring to the superpowers' strong objection to Iran's victory, the imam's representative to the Supreme Defense Council said: The superpowers and the Western world do not want the war to come to an end, they want the war to continue as it is so that, as it were, by establishing an imposed peace, they could attain their goals. But they should know that the only path toward a genuine peace is the complete victory of the IRI in the war. What we have to say to the United States, which is making efforts to establish links with the IRI, is that it should hand over the billions of dollars of our blocked assets. We are also calling on the Lebanese Muslims to free the U.S. hostages! The United States, however, should not call for the establishment of ties with Iran, since that is a separate issue!

In this second sermon, referring to the conference of Iraqi dissidents in Tehran, Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Hashemi-Rafsanjani said: We are ready to make use of all our capabilities for the liberation of the Iraqi people; and our Iraqi brothers should make the decision and lay the foundations to Iraq's Constitution so that one of the conditions for our fateful offensive aimed at achieving final victory could be brought about.

Continuing his second sermon and referring to the recent OPEC meeting and the Iraqi regime's objection to reducing the production level and increasing the price of oil, the speaker of the Islamic Consultative Assembly said: We expect OPEC to reduce the oil production quotas whereby through a 10 percent reduction, incomes could be increased by 30 percent; and we hope that Saudi Arabia, too, would cooperate towards this end.

In his Friday prayers today, in connection with the Day of Unity Between the Religious Seminaries and the Universities and the anniversary of the martyred professor Dr Mohammad Mofatteh, Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani paid tribute to the valuable services rendered by that worthy martyr.

Sudan's Al-Mahdi Inspects Defense Industry*LD181610 Tehran IRNA in English 1601 GMT 18 Dec 86*

[Text] Tehran, Dec 18, IRNA — Visiting Sudanese Prime Minister Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi conferred with Defense Minister Colonel Mohammad Hoseyn Jalali here Thursday. Jalali said the meeting was an outset for expansion of Tehran-Khartoum relations to continue within the common goals of the two Muslims countries.

Later in the day Al-Mahdi who also holds Sudan's defense portfolio, accompanied by Colonel Jalali, inspected one of the

military factories under the umbrella of the defense industries organisation. Jalali said the organisation is a major arm of the Islamic Republic's military industries established in a bid to attain self-sufficiency and industrial independence. Significant developments have so far been achieved in this area, he said.

Jalali said the anti-Islamic forces are hatching plots against Sudan aimed at disrupting the Islamic identity of its Muslim country. "We are confident that Sudan would never allow them to succeed," he added.

In reply Al-Mahdi said that transfer of military technology from industrial states in fact increases the dependence of a developing country instead of beefing-up its military power. "But what we are witnessing here proves that military technology has been correctly employed in Iran," Al-Mahdi said.

Models of weapons manufactured in the defense industries organisation were presented to the Sudanese prime minister and his accompanying entourage at the end of the inspection.

Al-Mahdi heading a delegation arrived here Wednesday at the invitation of his Iranian counterpart Hoseyn Musavi.

Received by Khamene'i

*LD182013 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1630 GMT 18 Dec 86*

[Text] Sudanese Prime Minister and Defense Minister Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi, who is presently in Tehran heading a political-economic and cultural high-ranking delegation, met with President Khamene'i this afternoon. Attending the meeting were Prime Minister Musavi; special presidential advisor Mir Salim; Deputy Prime Minister for political affairs Mo'ayyeri; the minister of mines and metals; three members of the National Assembly of Sudan; and the diplomatic envoys of the two countries. At the meeting, the Sudanese prime minister began by expressing his pleasure at visiting the Islamic Republic of Iran and also at closely observing the glorious aspects of the Islamic Revolution.

He said: We are happy to see the Islamic Revolution finding a firm place for itself in the world arena. Praising the Islamic Revolution in Iran, Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi stated: All Islamic movements in the world have been founded on divine ideals, but great powers have always used all their resources to try block the way. Conflict between right and falsehood is a necessary and fateful phenomenon.

Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi also said: We are pleased to see that your Islamic Revolution has a beneficial aspect for all; it seeks to revive the genuine culture of the Islamic countries, to aid and assist the oppressed, to attain self-reliance and independence in technology, and to mobilize the public to reach their own righteous goals. We strongly pursue our relations with the Islamic Republic of Iran not only in political fields but also in ideological and intellectual fields, strengthening and expanding them.

Concluding his speech, the Sudanese prime minister expressed interest in expanding and diversifying bilateral relations. He

called his visit a factor in expanding those relations, expressing hope that the level of contacts will be further enlarged.

President Khamene'i, responding to the Sudanese prime minister, stressed the existence of spiritual, intellectual, and emotional [as heard] relations between Iran and Sudan. He welcomed the expansion of relations, and said: The strong roots of the Islamic movement that oppose the global arrogance in Sudan induces in us a feeling of closer relations with your country. Therefore, we are urging a maximum expansion of cooperation with your country. Stressing the necessity for Muslim unity in confrontation against aggressions by global arrogance, Khamene'i added: Today, an example of such unity among various sects of Islam in our country can be used as a model for Muslims of the world. Today in some countries actions are taken in the name of Islam, but in actuality, are against Islam. We believe that Islam is a religion that grants people integrity and correct vision while being in the service of the oppressed and the deprived. It fights against enemies of humanity and arrogant powers. In every Islamic country not doing this, Islamic ideals are being ignored.

In conclusion, the president stressed the necessity for efforts by the Islamic countries to establish strong and serious cooperation in confronting aggressions arising from the world of arrogance and colonialism. He said: Today, in all places from North Africa to Asia to the Middle East, global arrogance is in an aggressive mode and is advancing. Resistance against such widescale aggression is not possible except by unity among all countries motivated to confront global arrogance.

Attends Sudanese Embassy Reopening

LD120952 Tehran IRNA in English 0935 GMT 19 Dec 86

[Text] Tehran, Dec 19, IRNA — The Sudanese Embassy in Tehran was reopened in a special ceremony attended by the visiting Sudanese Prime Minister Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi Friday morning. The embassy was closed down following the support of the former regime in Sudan for the Iraqi regime in its imposed-war against Iran.

The ceremony was attended by Foreign Affairs Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati, members of the delegation accompanying the Sudanese premier, officials from the Iranian Foreign Ministry and Prime Ministry, and also foreign diplomatic staff in Tehran. Prime Minister Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi hoisted the Sudanese flag at the embassy.

Relations between the two countries at present will be at charge d'affaires level, however, the ambassadors of the two countries are to be appointed in the near future. The Sudanese charge d'affaires to Tehran, Ahmed Faqir, is said to become his country's ambassador to Tehran. After downfall of the Numayri's regime, the new Sudanese Government adopted a new policy towards Iran as a result of which mutual relations were improved. The government of Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi is neutral in the Iraqi-imposed war and Iran has since then sent aid to the famine stricken of Sudan and also dispatched Iranian teams of experts and specialists to that country for oil related activities.

Sudanese Energy Minister Discusses Oil, POW's*LD182124 Tehran IRNA in English 1403 GMT 18 Dec 86*

[Text] Tehran, Dec 18, IRNA — Visiting Sudanese Energy and Mining Minister Adam Madibu discussed purchase of Iranian oil, release of the Sudanese POW's in Iran, as well as other political and economic issues with Mines and Metals Minister Mohammad Reza Ayatollahi here Thursday. Four committees have been established in order to review Tehran-Khartoum cooperation in the aforesaid fields.

Later Madibu accompanied by Ayatollahi inspected Iran's geology organisation and was briefed on the geological maps with different scales as well as a map of the Middle East approved at the Moscow Geological Congress and a Middle East map in Persian, English, and Arab languages.

Madibu is accompanying Sudanese Prime Minister Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi on his four-day visit here. The Sudanese delegation arrived here Wednesday.

Visiting Indian Official Meets Mirzadeh*LD182019 Tehran IRNA in English 1840 GMT 18 Dec 86*

[Text] Tehran, Dec 18, IRNA — Visiting Indian Minister of State for Industrial Affairs Arunachalam expressed his country's keen desire on expansion of economic relations with Iran in a meeting with Deputy Prime Minister for Executive Affairs Hamid Mirzadeh here Thursday. In the meeting, Mirzadeh said that matters of common interest between the two countries call for expansion of mutual ties. Economic relations and technical cooperation between Tehran and New Delhi should suit the size of the two big countries, he added.

The Islamic Republic will soon achieve a glorious victory in the Iraqi-imposed war through solid defense and tactical repulsion of the aggressor, Mirzadeh said. "Aggressors against regional countries will be given a sound lesson forever," he added. Mirzadeh also expressed Iran's readiness for expansion of mutually advantageous trade exchange with friendly countries.

It was announced in the session that Iranian Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati would soon visit India to participate in the Irano-Indian joint economic commission.

Received by Velayati*LD182329 Tehran IRNA in English 1802 GMT 18 Dec 86*

[Text] Tehran, Dec 18, IRNA, Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati Thursday welcomed cooperation with South Asian countries in the framework of regional cooperation and offered Iran's services to solve any misunderstandings among member states to preserve the region's political stability. Speaking in a meeting with the visiting Indian minister of state for industrial affairs, Arunachalam, the foreign minister hoped that talks between the Indian delegation and Iranian officials would be fruitful.

The state minister said that India has numerous opportunities for the expansion of relations with Iran which could be investigated during the forthcoming joint Iran-India commission to be held in New Delhi.

The Indian state minister arrived here Tuesday night.

Chairman of Iraq Opposition Outlines Conference*LD181526 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian**1030 GMT 18 Dec 86*

[Text] Sayyid 'Ali Jamal al-Hashimi, chairman of the Conference of Solidarity With the Iraqi Nation, in a meeting with press correspondents announced the salient points of the plans of the five committees of this conference, attended by all the Muslim forces and groups fighting against the Iraqi Zionist regime, to be held from 3d Dey this year for 5 days in Tehran [from 24 December 1986 for 5 days].

The chairman of the Conference of Solidarity With the Iraqi Nation referred to the main aim of the conference as being the unity and coordination of the fighting Iraqi forces and deciding Iraq's future after Saddam's downfall and said: The conference participants, expressing their viewpoints, making speeches, and putting forward various articles will make decisions in five committees about various problems of struggle.

He added: In the committee for studying Iraq's future, strategy discussions and an exchange of views will take place on the main elements of Iraq's future system, particularly the right of the Iraqi people to determine Iraq's political future; being independent; safeguarding the territorial integrity; national unity and the antiarrogant nature of the future Iraqi regime; struggle against Zionism and efforts to liberate Jerusalem; and strengthening relations with the Islamic and progressive countries.

The chairman of the Conference of Solidarity With the Iraqi Nation then mentioned another committee of the conference, the committee for studying the methods of political struggle against the Iraqi ruling regime in the international arena — by showing documents on the crimes perpetrated by the Saddam regime to international forums — and said: The committee will also study the position of Iraqi refugees on a world level and will demonstrate the Iraqi regime's inhuman methods in this connection.

He referred to the committee studying the imposed war as another committee of the Conference of Solidarity With the Iraqi Nation and said: While analyzing the reasons for the Iraqi regime's aggression against the fledgling system of the Islamic Republic, the committee will also appraise the role played by imperialism in imposing the war on the Islamic Republic.

The chairman of the Conference of Solidarity With the Iraqi Nation referred to the study of the ways of stepping up armed operations inside Iraqi soil as the working axis of the conference's fourth committee and said: The committee will study the stepping up of armed operations by Muslim Iraqi fighters against the Zionist regime ruling Iraq and will decide the quality of armed struggle, delivering the necessary capabilities to the fighters

within Iraq and bringing about coordination and unity between the armed fighters and armed operations against the Iraqi regime.

He referred to the conference's fifth committee as studying human rights in Iraq, particularly the position of the missing and untraceable Iraqi nationals, and said: The committee will study the inhuman actions and crimes perpetrated by the Saddam regime against the Iraqi people, also the POW's, prison conditions and torture in Iraq, and all this will be demonstrated to the world peoples and international forums with the help of documents and proof.

SAIRI Spokesman Stresses Militant Unity
LD182121 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1030 GMT 18 Dec 86

[Text] On the third day and the fifth session of the General Assembly of the Supreme Assembly of the Islamic Revolution of Iraq [SAIRI], Rahmani, the official responsible for the Guards Corps Basij, described the present situation of the Iraqi combatants and mujahidin. He said: The extensive facilities that exist in Iran for the Iraqi combatants should be utilized in the best possible manner. The Islamic Revolution of Iraq should rely on and arise from the people, so that there will be sufficient guarantees for its survival.

According to this report, during the session, Hojjat ol-Eslam Hashemi, spokesman for the SAIRI, stressed the need for unity among the combative Iraqi forces in order to achieve the sublime goals of the holy jihad to overthrow the Zionist regime of Iraq and to establish an Islamic government in that country. The SAIRI spokesman referred to the forthcoming conference on cooperation with the Iraqi people and called for more coordination between Muslim forces, especially the SAIRI.

Larijani Tells Majlis Speaker of Pakistan Visit
LD181840 Tehran IRNA in English 1758 GMT 18 Dec 86

[Text] Tehran, Dec 18, IRNA — Deputy Foreign Minister for International Affairs Mohammad-Javad Larijani briefed Majlis Speaker Hojjat-ol-Eslam Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani Thursday on his recent visit to Pakistan and his talks with that country's President Ziaul Haq.

In a meeting with Rafsanjani here, Larijani also reported on the upcoming meeting of the Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC) to be held in Kuwait as well as the 'Afghan issue.' Stressing on Iran's support for Afghan Muslim nation as a logical stand, the Majlis speaker termed the role of the Islamic Republic in the resolving of this issue as effective.

On the OIC meet, Rafsanjani noted that the conference should deal with the main issues of the world of Islam in a healthy atmosphere. Hence, he went on, any move aimed at polluting the air of understanding in the conference would be condemned.

Larijani had visited Pakistani last week.

Holds Press Conference on Visit
LD182113 Tehran IRNA in English 1738 GMT 18 Dec 86

[Text] Tehran, Dec 18, IRNA — Iran will utilise its influence to end the Soviet occupation of Afghanistan and bring into office a government [word indistinct]. On the resolute vote of the Muslim nation of that country, [word indistinct] Deputy Foreign Minister for International and Economic Affairs Mohammad Javad Larijani, here Thursday.

Larijani who had been to Pakistan last week for discussions on the Afghan issue said in a press conference here that Iran and Pakistan greatly suffered the consequences of Afghanistan's occupation and the security of both countries has been practically jeopardized due to the Soviet presence. He described Iran's stand towards Afghanistan as 'logical' and 'firm' and welcomed the speedy withdrawal of Soviet [word indistinct] from that country. He stressed that the Afghan issue should not be solved in East-West equations. Iran believes that no foreign country should impose itself on Afghanistan adding that the future government of Afghanistan should be independent, non-aligned, and supported by the Muslim people of that country.

Among other issues discussed with Pakistani officials, said Larijani, was the forthcoming summit meet of the Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC) in Kuwait. He said the country hosting the OIC meet, whenever the venue may be, shoulders grave responsibility as the world of Islam is being attacked from all sides by global oppressors.

On the Iraqi imposed war, Larijani said that both the West and East have realized the necessity of elimination of tension in the region, in view of the imminent victory of Iran over the Iraqi regime. Thus, he said, it is necessary that the neighbouring and other countries be informed of the general trend of the issues beforehand.

In conclusion, he said that the Iran-Pakistan-Turkey tripartite economic cooperation commission will be held here within the next few months, to further expand cooperation in economic, technical, scientific, and trade fields and transit issues.

Majlis Speaker Cites 'Huge Fuss' Over Arms
PM181437 Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 13 Dec 86 p 2

[Untitled report by unidentified *Keyhan* correspondent in Hormozgan Province]

[Text] A meeting, attended by Majlis Speaker Hashemi-Rafsanjani, was held in Kish island's Shayan hotel to discuss welfare and economic projects. Also taking part in the meeting were the deputy prime minister in charge of executive affairs, the governor general of Hormozgan Province, and a further group of national officials.

First, Deputy Prime Minister in Charge of Executive Affairs Mirzadeh gave a report on Kish island's welfare projects and said the programs for the island were within the framework of the general movement in the country aimed at increasing the local population's income.

He commented on a government directive with regard to exports and imports of goods from and to the island: In accordance with this directive all permitted goods, all goods permitted but with certain conditions, all goods purchased with hard currency, and other items purchased in exchange for exported goods can be brought to and taken from Kish without paying customs fees or trade charges.

He added that the selling of goods on Kish island is bound by export and import laws and any traveler entering Kish is allowed to take off the island goods totaling up to 50,000 rials. The deputy prime minister then elaborated on the special qualities of the government plans for Kish.

Hojjat ol-Eslam Hashemi-Rafsanjani continued the meeting by confirming the welfare plans already accomplished in Kish. He stressed the need for further cooperation among executive officials in this regard. He added: Implementing this plan is to the advantage of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the entire region. By strengthening fishing in the area and by supporting the natives of the island we can push the country's consumer habits toward utilizing high-protein foodstuffs. This way we can also create employment.

The meeting participants also talked about paying back the sum owed by the Kish welfare office, which is the result of wrong policies in the previous regime. It was decided that this office should pay back its loans to the Mellat Bank, with the help of the Central Bank and by increasing its trade and production.

The imam's representative on the Supreme Defense Council Hojjat ol-Eslam Hashemi-Rafsanjani continued his tour of Kish island by making an appearance at the island's Air Force base. He gave a speech to an audience of base personnel and commented on the Islamic Republic of Iran's special position, the economic importance of the Persian Gulf, and the continued successes of the Islamic warriors.

He stressed that the Persian Gulf enjoys a unique position in the world. He talked about the efforts made by the Islamic Republic of Iran in coordinating military and economic activities on the island. He said: According to reports received, at present some 12,000 tons of fish are being caught and, considering the vast resources and weather conditions of the Persian Gulf, adequate use is being made of these resources.

The Majlis speaker talked about the U.S. desperation and lack of success with regard to establishing ties with the Islamic Republic of Iran. He said this defeat was because of the sacrifices and awareness of the people and the Armed Forces. This defeat, he said, had brought the Great Satan to a position of humility. The humility that the United States and Britain have toward us today is unprecedented in history, he said.

Concerning the situation on the war fronts, the imam's representative on the Supreme Defense Council said: We are in a very good position when it comes to the war fronts.

He stressed that every inch of our Islamic homeland is precious to us and added: Today, the Americans and others are not around to boss us. Addressing the military personnel, he added:

You have to be very aware, because today the revolution and the leadership put their trust in you.

The Majlis speaker arrived in Bandar-e 'Abbas yesterday afternoon to witness a naval maneuver in the Persian Gulf. He was welcomed by Hojjat ol-Eslam Ahmadi, the Imam's representative and the Friday imam of Bandar-e 'Abbas; Hojjat ol-Eslam Anvari, the Majlis deputy from Hormozgan Province; Colorel Sohrabi, commander of the Joint Chiefs of Staff; Captain Malekzadegan, commander of the Navy [ranks, titles as published]; the Majlis deputy for Bandar-e 'Abbas and Minab; and military and local officials of the province.

The Majlis speaker was welcomed on his arrival by a military honor guard and was presented with flowers by the child of a martyr.

According to this report the speaker of the Majlis then attended an administrative meeting of Hormozgan Province, attended by the governor general and other provincial officials.

Last night, the Majlis speaker attended a meeting of local officials and gave a speech commenting on the extraordinary importance of Hormozgan Province. He said: Because of its unique location, Hormozgan Province has an important role in the country. The fact that the area needs more attention is quite clear.

He then talked about the special position of the country and the continuation of the war and said: Islamic Iran is engaged in a historic and unprecedented war. For the past 8 years it has tolerated a full-scale war and is facing all the powers of the world. This war is no ordinary one, where two sides fight and everyone looks on. Our enemy is being supplied by all the colonialists. For the past 8 years they have given Iraq the most sophisticated weapons. France gives Super Etandard planes and the Soviets give MiG-25's and rockets, and no one says anything about this.

But the issue raised recently, when someone gave us a small quantity of arms which they themselves said did not total more than one plane-load, caused the whole world to make a huge fuss and question the United States. The Soviets who have given arms to the Iraqis for the past 8 years say that the United States does not want the war to end. It must be said that none of them wants the war to end.

The Majlis speaker stressed: The world is not neutral in this war. The United States, Britain, and the Soviet Union are not neutral in this war. The United States has given \$700 million in credit and some helicopters to Iraq, which have an effect on the war.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani said the propaganda against the Islamic Revolution is the result of cooperation between the Zionists and the imperialist media. He said: The Zionists and the imperialist media have taken their position in this war against us, and it is a great, historic epic that Iran has defeated this plot and has rubbed its enemies' noses in the dirt.

The imam's representative on the Supreme Defense Council said that the U.S. leaders' weak point is the Iranian people's resis-

tance. He said: We have resisted for 8 years and now the Americans, including Republicans, Democrats, the White House, the Senate, the Congress, and the CIA, despite all their mischief, all say unanimously that Iran is a place they must have relations with. The people who are now saying this are the same people who once claimed that we supported terrorism and that we were doomed.

The Majlis speaker said: The Soviet Union is a powerful country and it is very angry with us over Afghanistan. We say: "Your troops are in Afghanistan, so this is how we will treat you." We destroyed their elements, the Tudeh Party, and we stood against their aggressive policies.

Hojjat ol-Islam Hashemi-Rafsanjani stressed: If the Iranian people wanted to have no problems, then they should not have resisted and should have surrendered. But because we have tolerated these problems we have to be satisfied that we have chosen the right path. We show the proper place that Iran should have in the world, and our brother officials should be encouraged and, with the help of God, should carry on with their duties.

The Majlis speaker said that the reason welfare projects are continuing in the deprived areas of the country in wartime conditions lies in the Islamic Republic's power and the people's steadfastness. He said that he hoped that with more awareness on behalf of officials, the people's unity will be constantly strengthened.

Magazine on West's Ploy of Linking Iran, Israel

LD181604 Tehran IRNA in English 1421 GMT 18 Dec 86

[Text] London, Dec 18, IRNA — The allegations that Iran has been buying weapons from Israel is of crucial importance for the survival of the Zionist state, according to the *Crescent* magazine.

In a review of the mushrooming saga over the U.S. supplying arms to Iran, the bimonthly publication notes that a mythical Israeli link has turned out to be the central theme, which, it suggests, is exactly the intentions of the West and world Zionism. For their propaganda purposes, the magazine says, "the world must believe that nobody is going to fight Israel, that Israel is invincible, that Israel controls everybody."

Crescent recalls that it was the Americans and the Zionist regime who together got the Iraqi ruler Saddam Husayn [to] invade the Islamic Republic "hoping that Iran would be destroyed before it destroyed Israel." But, it says, with Saddam about to fall, the calculation has misfired, opening up the road to al-Quds (Jerusalem).

The Canadian-based magazine stipulates that Muslim masses throughout the world want Palestine and Jerusalem liberated, which Iran has committed itself to being the single greatest goal of any Islamic country. It is within this context that the present spate of propaganda is seen by the bimonthly, which it perceives as being designed to convince the Muslim masses that the Islamic Republic is, in effect, no different from other Arab and Muslim countries. The allegations are intended to present the Islamic

leaders in Tehran as being "just as hypocritical as other Muslim rulers," it says.

Crescent has observed that it has now become necessary for the West to represent Iran, on the eve of its victory over Saddam's Iraq, as the victor over a small state. It states that the victory will not be portrayed as that of Islam against Kufr [blasphemy] but only as Iran's over Iraq. "The Israelis and the West want the world, especially the Muslim world, to believe that nothing has changed, that Iran has only emerged as [the] local bully" and that Islam in Iran is little more than a slogan, just as in Saudi Arabia, Pakistan, Egypt, Sudan, and elsewhere, the magazine proposes.

It expands the fantasy scenario that Iran, too, will one day sign a peace agreement with the Zionist regime, along with other Arab leaders, who are currently arguing who should be next after Egypt.

Italy's Craxi Orders Release of Detained Ship

LD181931 Tehran IRNA in English 1915 GMT 18 Dec 86

[Text] Rome, Dec 18 IRNA — Italian Prime Minister Bettino Craxi Thursday ordered Italian port officials to release the Iranian cargo ship *Iran Jihad*, detained at the port of Genoa since last Saturday. Officials of the port had seized the ship under the false pretext that an Iranian national on board wanted to seek asylum in Italy. The Iranian stowaway has already refuted the claim. Craxi told reporters that he had ordered the officials to complete the formalities for the ship's departure from the port.

Ship Leaves; Tehran To File Suit

LD190930 Tehran IRNA in English 0911 GMT 19 Dec 86

[Excerpts] Rome, Dec 19, IRNA — The Iranian commercial ship *Iran Jihad* forced to remain in the northern Italian port of Genoa since Dec 11, was allowed by the Italian officials to leave the port early Friday morning. The ship which anchored at the port Dec 4, was ready to disembark the port Dec 11 when the port authorities prevented it from continuing its voyage on [the] baseless reason that a man on board wanted to seek political asylum from the Italian Government. [passage omitted]

Thursday night Craxi announced that he has issued the necessary orders for departure of the ship which was stopped at the port in defiance of the protest of its captain. Craxi said that he had given instructions to the Italian Internal Affairs Ministry in this respect. He said that the matter was studied carefully and that [the] decision to release it was made on the basis of international regulations and the 1958 Geneva Convention. The Italian Foreign Ministry spokesman in an interview with IRNA here Thursday had said that all measures had been taken for the departure of the ship.

The Iranian Embassy in Rome, in a statement issued Friday announced departure of the vessel and condemned the illegal action of the Italian Government in detaining it. The embassy protested against illegal entry of Italian police and coastal officials to the vessel which under international regulations is considered an Iranian territory. The statement said that the Italian

Government must provide an answer for its illegal measure. The vessel, it added was detained because of unfounded rumours that an Iranian smuggled into the ship wanted to ask for political asylum from the Italian Government. The statement categorically denied the rumour and said that said person had never made such a request.

The Iranian charge d'affaires to Rome, Mohammad Reza Entezari, speaking to IRNA here Friday, said that the Islamic Republic of Iran will file a law suit against the Italian Government for its detention of the ship. He referred to international regulations including the 1958 Geneva Convention and said that illegal entry of the Italian police and coastal guards to [the] vessel was a violation against Iran. He said that throughout detention of the ship at Genoa two Italian guards remained on board without the consent of its captain. The ship was prevented from continuing its journey with no convincing reason and only on the bases of rumours spread by the Iranian counterrevolutionary Monafeqin (MKO). As a result, Entezari added, in addition to disruption of the loading schedule of the ship great financial loss has been caused.

Navy Captain Praises Prowess During Exercise

LD182131 Tehran IRNA in English 1000 GMT 18 Dec 86

[Text] Bandar-e 'Abbas, Hormozgan Prov., Dec 18, IRNA — Operational commander of the five day 'Zolfaqar' naval maneuvers outlined the degree of readiness of Iranian naval bouyant units, Wednesday. The maneuvers started on Dec 12 in the Strait of Hormuz, Persian Gulf, and also the Oman Sea, were code-named 'Zolfaqar', after the famous two-blade sword of Imam 'Ali (AS) the first imam of the Shi'ite Muslims.

Naval Commander, Captain Pour-Hussein-zade [name as received] said that the units participating in these maneuvers enjoyed a very high military prowess compared with the former ones and displayed their abilities to counter the potential threats in the region which may become actual. He added that utilisation of all facilities by the light and heavy units in the maneuvers indicated the constant alertness of the naval forces to safeguard the vital sea lanes on the southern coast of Iran.

He said that the naval forces clocked the fastest speed in staging the assumed operation, adding that they showed their combat readiness to protect the islands, ports, and coasts of the country and to keep open the shipping lanes for Iranian ships and to close them to the enemy, if necessary.

The commander further said that with the strict control and supervision of the Strait of Hormuz by the Iranian Navy, the movement of ships carrying goods for Iraq has minimised and in fact they did not traffic [as received] so much these days.

Iraqi POW's Protest Against Red Cross Visit

LD182046 Tehran IRNA in English 0812 GMT 18 Dec 86

[Text] Tehran, Dec 18, IRNA — Iraqi POW's in the Bojnurd Camp, Khorasan Province, expressed their resentment over the visit of officials of the International Committee of Red Cross (ICRC) to the camp.

According to an informed source here Wednesday during the visit the ICRC delegation distributed special registration cards among the POW's, most of which were torn in protest to the visit in the very presence of the delegation.

ICRC resumed its activities in Iran last week on promise of observing the international regulations. Iran halted the activities of the ICRC officials about two years ago due to their one-sided stance and biased report on the Gorgan refugee camp incident in 1984.

Iraqi Defector Urges Others To Save Lives

LD182233 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 18 Dec 86

[Excerpts] Flight 1st Lieutenant Muhammad 'Abd al-Hasan Faraj, formerly of the Iraqi Air Force 5th Squadron at Nasiriyah airbase, while flying his Sukhoy-22 aircraft recently sought asylum in the Islamic Republic of Iran. In a televised message on Thursday detailing his request for asylum in Iran he asked other Iraqi pilots to take refuge in the Islamic Republic of Iran and save their own lives. [passage omitted]

Noting oppression in the Iraqi Army and Iraq's deployment of chemical weapons against Islamic combatants, the Iraqi pilot said: Saddam Husayn exerts very high pressure on Iraqi Army personnel to fight the Islamic forces. I myself am a witness to using chemical bombs onboard Iraqi aircraft during the Val Fajr-8 operations. [passage omitted]

Flight 1st Lt 'Abd al-Hasan Faraj in his televised message urged Iraqi pilots and Army personnel to shake off their fright and break the atmosphere of fear, and seek refuge in the Islamic Republic of Iran. He asked Islamic Republic of Iran officials to prepare facilities and safe landing places for Iraqi aircraft used for seeking asylum.

Communique No 2,689 Issued on Operations

LD181920 Tehran IRNA in English 1748 GMT 18 Dec 86

[Text] Tehran, Dec 18, IRNA — Several Iraqi artillery pieces, heavy mortar launchers, and at least three trucks were demolished and their crews killed by the heavy fire of Muslim combatants of Iran on enemy artillery positions and logistic routes in northwestern and western operational fronts, announced the Joint Staff Command Communique No 2,689 issued here Thursday.

The communique added that several group bunkers and observation posts and parts of enemy's defensive lines were destroyed and

movement of their logistic columns checked by Gendarmerie personnel in the same fronts during Wednesday and Thursday.

Exchange of artillery and tank fire continued in most fronts being more intense in the southern operational theaters of Kushk and Zeydi.

Reports from southern fronts indicate that patrol units of Muslim combatants carried out missions on pre-determined points and returned to their bases safely after inflicting blows on the enemy.

In Nahr-e Anbar operational theater, engineering activities of the enemy were disturbed under the artillery fire of Muslim

combatants and Iraqi equipment was set ablaze, said the communique.

The tank units of Muslim combatants silenced Iraqi fire in Yabis theater and inflicted casualties on Iraqi tanks.

Reconnaissance flights of Iraqi helicopters were repulsed with the anti-aircraft fire of Iranian combatants in Talayeh and Kushk fronts during the said period, concluded the Joint Staff communique.

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

22 DECEMBER 1986

Iran-Iraq War

IRNA announced that Iraqi warplanes "savagely" bombed Eslamabad-e Gharbi 22 December, killing over 100 civilians. Iraqi planes had also killed over 80 civilians in Bakhtaran the previous day, according to IRNA. Iranian artillery began shelling Iraqi industrial, economic, and military targets in response for the raid on residential areas in Bakhtaran, Tehran radio announced. However, an Iraqi spokesman cited by INA denied that the Bakhtaran raid hit civilian areas, stressing that Iraqi aircraft attacked military bases and camps in the area. An Iraqi communique broadcast by Voice of the Masses radio said the military air base at Bakhtaran was among the targets hit, asserting that two Iranian helicopters were destroyed on the ground. Iraqi planes also attacked a "very large" maritime target near the Iranian coast 20 December, according to an official statement carried by the radio.

Iraq's claim to have downed an Iranian F-14 over the Gulf 19 December was denied by an Iranian military source cited by IRNA. An Iraqi military spokesman likewise disputed Iran's claim that an Iraqi pilot defected to Iran in an Iraqi Sukhoi, according to INA. The spokesman pointed out that Iran's claim contradicted its own announcement in November that the same pilot was captured when his Sukhoi was shot down in a raid on Iran.

OPEC

According to a "press release" carried by OPECNA 20 December, the OPEC foreign ministers conference agreed to return to a fixed pricing system with a benchmark price of \$18 per barrel effective 1 January 1987. To defend the benchmark price, OPEC agreed to reduce total production to 15.8 million b/d during the first and second quarters of 1987. The cut represents reductions of over 7 percent from the projected demand for OPEC oil during the two quarters, the statement said. According to figures cited by KUNA, in order to achieve the production level of 15.8 million b/d, a total reduction of 1.2 million b/d less than current production, most OPEC members will be required to cut their production by some 5 percent. However, Iran received a quota of 2.255 million b/d, a 2.68-percent cut. On the other hand, Iraq, which had been insisting on parity with Iran, was assigned a quota of 1.466 million b/d. In a 20 December statement cited by AFP, the Iraqi oil minister declared that his country dissociated itself from the agreement on the grounds that the production level assigned to Iraq was not based on "logical criteria" and that the common objective of increased OPEC revenue should not be attained at Iraq's "expense." Meanwhile, the Iranian oil minister praised the agreement in remarks to Tehran radio. The minister stated that if Saudi Arabia is unsuccessful in convincing Iraq to comply with its quota, Iran will call for an "extraordinary meeting" to expel Iraq from OPEC. A "responsible source" subsequently told SPA 21 December that the Saudi Government had made no commitment to persuade Iraq even though Saudi

Arabia hoped that Iraq would take "appropriate action" to fix international oil prices.

Iran

Mediation on U.S. Hostages — Iranian mediation to secure the release of U.S. hostages in Lebanon will only be effective if the United States meets the demands of Lebanese Muslims, Majlis Speaker 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani stated in remarks reported by IRNA. Reaffirming Iran's demand that the United States release frozen Iranian assets, he said that "only then" will Iran begin mediating to secure the U.S. hostages' release. He also announced that Iran will publish copies of the passports of those who accompanied Robert McFarlane to Tehran at an "appropriate" time and that it will release other documents on the affair "if necessary."

Relations with Sudan — Prime Minister Mir Hosayn Musavi and Sudanese Prime Minister Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi witnessed the signing of a protocol on political, economic, and cultural relations 20 December, Tehran radio reported. In remarks cited by the radio, both ministers expressed satisfaction with the talks and emphasized the need to expand bilateral cooperation. Following his departure, Al-Mahdi told reporters that he presented an "integrated plan" to end the Iran-Iraq war, SUNA said. He also announced that Iran agreed to release all Sudanese prisoners and that Sudan's debt was renegotiated.

Chinese Delegation — Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati stressed the "bright" prospects for the continued expansion of Sino-Iranian relations in a 20 December meeting with visiting Chinese parliamentarian Geng Biao, IRNA reported. Majlis Speaker Hashemi-Rafsanjani also received the delegation 20 December, Tehran radio reported.

Lebanon

Commenting on the fighting between Syrian forces and gunmen in the northern city of Tripoli, a Syrian source cited by SANA said the clashes arose during a search for wanted persons who recently returned to Tripoli. The source said the matter was "over" after security forces located and "dealt with" the fugitives. However, the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon reported further clashes in the city over the weekend and accused the Syrians of killing over 100 civilians. Beirut radio said 30 people were killed and 60 were wounded in the fighting 19 December.

As for the camps war, Beirut radio said 5 people were killed and 10 were injured in fighting around the Shatila camp 20 December, noting that the clashes were continuing the following day. In Tunis, PLO Political Department chief Faruq Qaddumi urged Libya and Algeria to use their good offices with the Syrians and Lebanese to end the camps war, AFP reported. In a 19 December statement cited by JANA, Libyan leader Colonel Mu'ammarr al-Qadhafi urged Lebanese youths to fight the "renegade"

Amal Movement but to avoid any clash with the forces of "fraternal" Syria.

Libya and Chad

Libya "has nothing to do with the conflict in Chad," according to a Foreign Liaison Bureau source cited by JANA 21 December. The source accused "hostile" circles, including the United States, of fueling the "fratricidal conflict" in Chad. Colonel al-Qadhafi warned the same day that Libya will use "all its might" to confront the threat to its southern border, Tripoli radio reported. Terming the United States and France "imperialists and criminals," Al-Qadhafi declared that Libya does not "countenance" their presence in Africa.

On the diplomatic front, JANA reported 21 December that GUNT Foreign Minister Facho Balaam briefed Foreign Liaison Secretary Kamil Hasan Mansur on the danger of "U.S.-French military intervention" and requested an increase in Libyan aid. In a 20 December meeting with the Soviet charge d'affaires in Tripoli, Balaam urged the USSR to "take a stand" on the "U.S.-French aggression," Tripoli radio reported.

Regarding military action in Chad, JANA reported 21 December that Hincin Habre's forces crossed the 16th parallel which had previously been the demarcation line between the opposing forces. A Chadian Government communique cited by AFP 21 December announced that 400 Libyans were killed in a counter

offensive to reestablish control over Bardai, Wour, and Zouar in western Tibesti.

Inter-Arab Affairs

Husayn Tour — Jordanian King Husayn flew to Saudi Arabia where he and King Fahd held official talks 20 December, Amman radio reported. En route home 21 December, the Jordanian monarch stopped off in Kuwait to discuss issues of common concern with the Kuwaiti amir, according to KUNA.

Egyptian-Saudi Ties — Egyptian President Husni Mubarak noted the "strong ties" between Egypt and Saudi Arabia in a meeting with Prince Faysal ibn Fahd, chairman of the Arab Soccer Federation, MENA reported 21 December.

Pakistan

President Mohammad Ziaul Haq swore in Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo's new 16-member federal cabinet 22 December, Karachi radio reported. Among those who retained their portfolios were the ministers of foreign affairs, finance, and interior. The previous cabinet resigned 20 December to give the prime minister greater latitude in dealing with the country's problems, Karachi radio announced. Meanwhile, life in troubled cities was gradually returning to normal, the radio said 19 December, noting that curfews in Karachi, Hyderabad, and Latifabad had been relaxed.

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Gandhi Against Gurkhaland, West Bengal Division
BK200318 Delhi Domestic Service in English
 1530 GMT 19 Dec 86

[Excerpt] The prime minister has categorically ruled out the creation of a separate Gurkhaland or division of West Bengal. Addressing a public meeting at Darjeeling this afternoon, Mr Rajiv Gandhi announced that Nepalese citizens who came to India after the India-Nepal treaty of 1950 will not be given citizenship. He said those Nepalese who were living in India before the treaty are citizens of India for all practical purposes.

Referring to the GNLF [Gurkha National Liberation Front] movement in Darjeeling, Mr Gandhi said the movement is not antinational. But, he said, the CPI-M and GNLF are both indulging in violent activities. He alleged that though the center has given sufficient police force to West Bengal, the state government has failed to maintain law and order. He urged the state government to maintain law and order in Darjeeling at all costs and assured that the center will give all possible assistance. He asked the chief minister to open a dialogue with the hill people to solve their problems.

Mr Gandhi said the problems of Darjeeling hills is basically an economic one and the center is preparing a new strategy about the development of hill areas, including Darjeeling.

The prime minister has also recalled the role of Gurkha people in protecting the unity and integrity of the country. [passage omitted]

Rules Out Tripartite Meeting
BK201006 Delhi Domestic Service in English
 0830 GMT 20 Dec 86

[text] The prime minister has said that the West Bengal government should initiate a dialogue with the Gurkha National Liberation Front [GNLF] to resolve the Gurkhaland issue. Mr Rajiv Gandhi was speaking to newsmen at Libong helipad this morning at the end of his visit to Darjeeling.

The prime minister categorically ruled out any possibility of a tripartite meeting involving the state government, the GNLF, and the center. He said the center has nothing to do with the problem and it is the state government's responsibility.

Mr Gandhi reiterated that there is no question of any division of West Bengal or granting of regional autonomy to Darjeeling as recommended by the left front government. He also ruled out abrogation of any provision of the Indo-Nepal treaty of 1950. He expressed concern at the increasing violence in the hill areas and said this is a dangerous trend. During his current visit he had

received complaints that members of some parties were indulging in violence while the police took no action. Mr Gandhi said the state government should make an effort to restore the confidence of the people.

Answering questions on Punjab, Mr Gandhi said it would not be wise to link up terrorism and the law and order situation with the transfer of Chandigarh. He said the transfer has not taken place because of the delay in identifying the areas which Haryana will get in lieu of Chandigarh. He said the center is in touch with the Barnala government and will soon reassess the situation in the state.

The prime minister is visiting Jalpaiguri and Cooch Behar on the final day of his 3-day visit to West Bengal today.

2 Killed in Punjab; Curfew Imposed in Amritsar
BK200837 Delhi Domestic Service in English
 0240 GMT 20 Dec 86

[Text] In Punjab, two persons were shot dead and one seriously injured in two separate incidents in Gurdaspur District last night. In one incident, two suspect terrorists shot dead a personal assistant of a former minister, Mr Nirmal Singh Kahlon, and seriously injured another person in a village in Dehra Baba Nanak sector. In the other incident, five unidentified gunmen (?smothered) the caretaker of a religious place.

Meanwhile, indefinite curfew has been clamped in Amritsar City since this morning. This is in view of the tension in the city following the killing of the schoolgoing son of a police inspector.

The chief minister, Mr Surjit Singh Barnala, has called a joint meeting of all ministers, MP's, MLA's [Members of the Legislative Assembly], district party presidents and members of the SGPC [Shiromani Gurdwara Prabandhak — Sikh temple management — Committee] on Tuesday. This is to discuss the political situation and party affairs.

Curfew Lifted
BK201632 Delhi Domestic Service in English
 1530 GMT 20 Dec 86

[Text] In Punjab, the curfew imposed in Amritsar from 0800 this morning in the walled city area and Circular Road, was lifted at 1700 in the evening. It was imposed as a precautionary measure in view of the bundh [strike] call given by some organizations to protest against the killing of the school-going son of a police inspector yesterday.

New Cabinet Sworn In by Ziaul Haq 22 Dec*BK220822 Karachi Overseas Service in English 0800 GMT 22 Dec 86*

[Text] A 16-member federal cabinet, including 4 ministers of state, were sworn in at the presidency a short while ago. Their oath of office was administered by President Mohammad Ziaul Haq in presence of Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo. Present on the occasion included the chairman of the senate, Mr Ghulam Ishaq Khan, and the National Assembly speaker, Mr Hamid Nasir Chatha.

The cabinet ministers and their portfolios are:

Education
Malik Nasim Ahmad
Finance and Economic Affairs
Mian Mohammad Yasin Khan Watto
Food, Agriculture, and Cooperatives
Mohammad Ibrahim Baluch
Foreign Affairs
Sahabzada Yaqub Khan
Housing and Works
Haji Mohammad Hanif Taiyab
Industries
Chaudhury Shujat Hussain
Information and Broadcasting
Qazi Abdul Majid Abid
Interior
Mohammad Aslam Khan Khattak
Justice and Parliamentary Affairs
Wasin: Sajjad Jan
Local Government and Rural Development
Anwar Aziz Chaudhury
States, Frontier Regions, and Kashmir Affairs
Syed Qasim Shah
Minister Without Portfolio
Iqbal Ahmad Khan

Ministers of state and their portfolios are:

Health Division
Sardar Ghulam Mohammad Mahar
Special Education and Social Welfare
Aksar Raza Kazarbash
Foreign Affairs
Zain Noorani
Railways
Nisar Mohammad Khan

Karachi Press Note on Police Shooting, Situation*BK191545 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 19 Dec 86*

[Text] A press note issued by the Karachi local administration this evening says the overall situation in Karachi was normal today. Some people violated curfew restrictions, and law enforcing agencies fired at them after giving due warning, injuring two persons. According to the local administration, curfew will be relaxed in Karachi Districts East and West from 0700 to 0930

[0200-0430 GMT] and from 1400 to 1700. Of course, in Jet Line area curfew will be relaxed from 0700 to 0930 only.

Curfew was relaxed in Hyderabad and Latifabad from 1200 to 1600. During curfew relaxation some processions were taken out in Hyderabad and Latifabad areas. There were some incidents of stone throwing and burning tires but there was no report of any untoward incident in the city. The Hyderabad local administration has announced that curfew will be relaxed from 0800 to 1000 and from 1500 to 1700 tomorrow.

Situation in Karachi 'Improved'; Curfew Relaxed*BK210640 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0600 GMT 21 Dec 86*

[Text] The situation in Karachi has significantly improved following the lifting of curfew in some areas and the day-long relaxation of curfew restrictions in some other areas of the city. Public and private transportation services have increased and business establishments and the stock exchange have reopened after having remained closed since last week. Attendance in offices and banks increased and consumer goods supplies in the city are also improving. Meanwhile, businessmen and industrialists of the city have set up a special fund to provide financial and other aid to affected families.

Meanwhile, curfew restrictions in curfew-bound areas of Karachi were relaxed for longer periods today. In Orangi, the curfew was relaxed from 0700-1100 [0200-0600 GMT] this morning and will again be relaxed from 1400-1700 this evening. In the remaining areas of District West, curfew has been relaxed from 0700-1700, while in District East, the curfew was relaxed from 0700-1100 and will again be relaxed from 1400-1700 today. In Sohrab Goth, the curfew was relaxed from 0700-0900 and will again be relaxed 1600-1700 in the afternoon. In the Jet Lines area, the curfew relaxation was from 0700-0900 and will again be given from 1500-1700 in the afternoon. In Hyderabad, a 10-hour curfew relaxation has been in effect since 0700 this morning.

Indian Interior Secretary Arrives for Talks*BK191219 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 19 Dec 86*

[Text] The Indian interior secretary, Mr C. G. Somiah, arrived in Islamabad this afternoon on a 3-day visit. Talking to newsmen at the airport, the Indian interior secretary said his talks with his Pakistani counterpart would center on drug trafficking, smuggling, and illegal border crossing. He said they would discuss and analyze the problems and try to sort them out in a friendly atmosphere to dispel the doubts. He expressed the hope that these talks would lead to positive results and clear the air of suspicion that exists between the two countries.

The Pakistani interior secretary, Mr S. K. Mahmud, said they would utilize the opportunity to arrive at certain concrete proposals to further the process of normalization so that the two countries could live in harmony and peace.

Begin Discussions

*BK201639 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT
20 Dec 86*

[Text] Pakistan-India talks on cooperation in steps to check drug trafficking along the borders, smuggling, illegal border crossing, and terrorism began in Lahore today. The two sides had a frank, cordial, and detailed exchange of views. The Pakistani delegation at the talks is led by Interior Secretary S. K. Mahmud, and the Indian side by Indian Home Secretary C. G. Somiah.

Joint Statement Issued

*BK211642 Karachi Domestic Service in English
1600 GMT 21 Dec 86*

[Text] Pakistan and India have reiterated their resolve to establish good neighborly relations on the basis of the principles of peaceful coexistence. This has been stated in a joint statement issued after 2 days of talks between the interior secretaries of the two countries in Lahore. The talks went round in pursuance of the decision reached by the prime ministers of Pakistan and India at their meeting in Bangalore last month. The statement said both sides agreed that a solution of the problems could be found on the basis of good faith and mutual trust. They also reaffirmed the commitment of their governments to the Simla Agreement. On an issue raised by the Indian home secretary the Pakistani interior secretary reiterated that Pakistan is opposed to all forms of terrorism and does not and will not provide any support to terrorist activities directed against India. The Indian home secretary gave a similar assurance in this context.

The two sides discussed the entire range of illegal cross border movement and specific remedial measures. They recognized that illegal crossing and terrorism have become closely interlinked with each other. They decided to strengthen cooperation between their Border Security Forces in order to control illegal border crossing. The statement says the two secretaries reviewed the situation on the ground as it exists along the border and agreed that the ground rules evolved in 1960-61 need to be reformulated. They agreed to constitute a joint committee to study the two draft proposals on their behalf which had been exchanged in 1981/82 by the two sides and expeditiously draft new ground

rules for consideration of the two governments. Both sides welcomed the decision taken at the second SAARC [South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation] summit for the establishment of a technical committee on prevention of drug abuse and drug trafficking in the region. They also reaffirmed their determination to combat this evil on a bilateral level within the framework of the joint ministerial commission.

Departs Lahore 21 Dec

*BK220420 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1700 GMT
21 Dec 86*

[Text] Indian Home Secretary C. G. Somiah, who had come on a 3-day visit to Pakistan heading a 6-member delegation, left Lahore for New Delhi this evening. During his stay in Pakistan, the Indian home secretary held talks with his Pakistani counterpart. Talking to newsmen before departure, the Indian home secretary described the talks as cordial, frank, and sincere. In a joint statement issued after the talks, Pakistan and India have reaffirmed their resolve to establish good-neighborly relations based on principles of peaceful coexistence.

7 Killed in DRA Bombing of Parachinar

OW200005 Tokyo KYODO in English 0002 GMT 20 Dec 86

[Text] Islamabad, Dec. 19 KYODO — Seven members of a wedding party including three women were killed in a bombing raid in the Parachinar area carried out by four Afghan jets Thursday, officials here said.

The Afghan jets dropped bombs over the villages of Nara and Piakai, 10 miles north of Parachinar and 250 kilometers west of Islamabad, killing four men and three women of the Mengai tribe attending a marriage party. Houses many homes [as received] were also damaged in the raid.

News of the Afghan aerial attack and casualties was reported by runners from the bombed border area to Parachinar Friday.

The Parachinar area, crisscrossed by passes used by the guerrillas to infiltrate into Afghanistan has been a frequent target of bombing and shelling by the Afghan forces.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani Urges Release of Frozen Assets
LD191746 Tehran IRNA in English 1648 GMT 19 Dec 86

[Quotation marks as received]

[Text] Tehran Dec. 18 IRNA — Majlis Speaker and substitute leader of Friday congregational prayers Hojjat ol-Eslam Hashemi-Rafsanjani said here Friday that once the U.S. Government should release the entirety of Iranian assets in the U.S. banks and elsewhere, the Islamic Government would then intercede with the Shi'ite groups in Lebanon for the release of the American hostages in that country.

The hojjat ol-islam, who was sermonizing to a multitudinous group of worshippers at the compounds of Tehran University campus at noon time Friday, elsewhere reflected on Washington's advances to Iran and McFarlane's abortive visit to Tehran as betraying both malicious designs by Washington and signifying frustration in its eight-year-long challenge to the Islamic Government.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani said relations between Tehran-Washington may never be resumed solely upon the will of Washington. He said as long Washington should offer to resume relations with Tehran, no such request will be honoured by Tehran.

Majlis speaker said in the wake of the abortive visit to Tehran by McFarlane in November, Washington has exploited a sophisticated propaganda machinery against the Islamic Government for suggesting, among other ideas, that the Islamic Republic is not that much against the United States as it pretends to be, or that behind the curtains the Islamic Government has tried to establish some sort of contact with the United States.

The substitute leader of Tehran Friday congregations said the scandalous visit to Tehran by McFarlane last month which continues to devote headlines to itself in the international media may in all likelihood become "Washington's blunder of the year or even perhaps its grossest blunder in the contemporary century."

Hojjat ol-Eslam Hashemi-Rafsanjani said Washington, which foresees Iran's eventual victory in the Iraq-Iran war as an unpreventable development, now intends to make good on its lost battle with the Islamic Government by suggesting to the world that the Iranian victory in the war with Iraq is owed principally to the U.S. weapons in the absence of which Iran would have lost the war to the Iraqi Government.

The substitute leader of Friday congregational prayers criticized Washington for its indiscreet and miscalculated advance to Tehran, saying in part that the imprudent move by the U.S. government has:

- "1. Made it clear that the United States is repenting for its (past) stances towards and its enmity with the Islamic Republic since it just now realizes that its policies have only worked against the United States and for the Islamic Republic.
- "2. Demonstrated the defeat of the United States and of the West in their confrontation with the Islamic Republic... which is true despite their severance of relations with and their economic

sanctions against Iran and despite their various plots, and political assassinations and also despite the embroiling Iran in an unwanted war....

"3. Proved that the United States has suffered a defeat even in its endeavours to resume relations with us...which is even acknowledged by top men in Reagan's administration.

"4. Engaged in unconstitutional, illegal, and uncommon means for resumption of relations. The United States, which always pretended that it would never bring itself to bribing a Third World country did bribe us in relation to Lebanon, which fact I now openly declare to the world, and to the Americans.

"5. Proved that the U.S. Government had forged Irish documents and also disguised an aircraft to look like an Irish aircraft and also disguised its crew to look like Irish stewards....

"6. Proved that the U.S. Government has smuggled weapons and that it exploited arms smugglers... while tens of people are serving prison terms in the United States and others being tried on the same charges in the United States...

"7. Brought to surface the difference within the ranks of U.S. officials and between them and leaders of Western countries.

"8. Proved the vulnerability of the West in its confrontation with revolutionary nations.

"9. Proved that the U.S. cooperates with Iraq.

"10. Proved that Israel is an infamous entity, our enemies suggesting (Iran's) intimacy with that regime as a smear campaign against the Islamic Government.

"11. Made Reagan concede that during the past 18 months he has seen no evidence implying Iran's engagement in terroristic acts.

"12. That the enemies of the Islamic Revolution are mercenaries. Madani and Bakhtiar have confessed to having received aid from the CIA...

"13. Proved that the two superpowers do not wish to see the end of the (Iraq-Iran) war but that they wish to see continued conflict.

Elsewhere in his sermon, the Majlis speaker criticized the Baghdad regime for refusing to abide by the dictates of OPEC, saying that the Iraqi politicians only "respond to the dictates of the world arrogance." He said it is common knowledge that the Baghdad government is not able to produce even as much as its assigned quota and noted that its demands for doubling its quota is solely a move for throwing a stumbling block on the way of the Organization of Oil-Exporting Countries (OPEC).

The hojjat ol-islam appreciated the stance of the Saudi Government in the current session of OPEC and expressed hope that the on-going meeting of OPEC oil ministers in Geneva would turn out a success.

More on Majlis Speaker Sermon

[Editorial Report] Tehran Domestic Service in Persian at 1600 GMT on 19 December 1986 broadcasts a 30-minute sermon by Majlis Speaker 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani, delivered at the Friday prayers session held at Tehran University.

In his sermon, which was monitored in progress from very poor reception, Hashemi-Rafsanjani says: "Well, although you have already implied it, you should be more explicit: Admit that you

have made a mistake in breaking relations with Iran; admit you made a mistake in turning your embassy into a den of espionage in the early days of the revolution; admit you made a mistake in returning Mohammad Reza Pahlavi here; say you made a mistake in strengthening the counterrevolution in Iran; admit you made a mistake in ordering Iraq to start the war; admit you made a mistake in telling the regional reactionaries to help Iraq financially; say you made a mistake in making use of your spies in favor of Iraq; that you made a mistake in supplying information to Iraq via your satellites and AWACs against Iran."

Rafsanjani then continues his sermon along the same line. Addressing the United States, he says: "You do realize that you have vast interests in the Persian Gulf; you also realize that no one but Iran can safeguard the Gulf's interests and security. Then why not (?tell it to your own people?). It has now become apparent that these people, in order to safeguard their own positions, would trample on their country's interests."

Alluding to clashes of interests in the West, Hashemi-Rafsanjani adds "Needless to say, we do possess even more confidential information in this regard which we (?are not going to divulge now). The fact is that the Western countries are competing against each other to establish closer ties with us. This follows the revelation about America's attempts." The Majlis speaker then cites the arrogant attitude of the United States against other nations.

Referring to big powers' influence throughout the world, Hashemi-Rafsanjani says: "The United States, Britain, France, Germany, Russia — all of them — have so many agents throughout the world. Wherever they take any step against our interests, we too will reciprocate here. If they arrest an Iranian there, we will arrest an American here. If we do not find an American, then we would arrest a French citizen. They lie. Only when one treats them as they treat others will they come to their senses — they are vulnerable. Another issue — an issue which they refused to admit until recently — is America's cooperation with Iraq. Actually they were forced to admit it. Why? Because Arab countries were angry with the United States for its intention of establishing relations with us. They knew full well that there was no question of any arms deal. Nevertheless, the very attempt being made by the United States to attract our friendship was demoralizing to them." Hashemi-Rafsanjani then elaborates on the use of satellites by the United States and the supplying of information to Iraq.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani reiterates Iran's adherence to its own principles, calling it Point 11. Elsewhere in his sermon, Hashemi-Rafsanjani praises Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini and the system of rule by jurisconsult (velayat-e faqih) advising: "I believe that Mr Reagan and his colleagues should start thinking about velayat-e faqih for their future." Having said that, he makes a comparison between the two systems and then goes on to cite the attitudes of both the United States and the USSR on the war, that they do not wish to see Iran triumph.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani then says: "The (11th) point that was discovered was: The Americans, despite their inquisitorial attitude, despite their satellites, spies, the CIA and the rest, are so immensely uninformed about our region; how uninformed they

are about our internal affairs; how many half-baked analyses do they intend to make? They kept investing in the trivial matters and issues in our country, believing that the leadership, the administration, and the officials have risen against each other. Well, later we all saw that everything was in vain following the statement issued by Grand Ayatollah Montazeri. The final point that was revealed is the discourtesy shown by the Americans and Western peoples to their leaders. You noticed how offensive the Americans were to this unfortunate old man. Well, let us remember, this gentleman is very old; he is 77 or 78 years old. As we say in this country, his days are numbered. He has shaky legs. They called him an imbecile, an idiot, incompetent, uninformed. Well, they lack any discretion to show courtesy toward their elders."

Continuing his remarks, Hashemi-Rafsanjani alludes to an earlier point: "We repeat what we have already stated. What is possible for us and the United States is for America to unfreeze our frozen assets. This was an illegal act of bullying and banditry. The United States must return our assets. Once the United States takes this step, then we would ask our Shi'ite brethren in Lebanon to free the U.S. hostages, as we do have some prestige amongst them." Hashemi-Rafsanjani then notes Iran's achievement in restoring a cease-fire in Lebanon, because of this very prestige. He says that Iran can achieve a great deal in Lebanon, provided the United States refrains from establishing relations with Iran.

Concluding his sermon, Hashemi-Rafsanjani recalls a story: "There was a group of learned and scholarly theologians in Qom, including martyr Ayatollah Haj Aqa Mostafa Ayatollah Zadeh and others. The members of this group were our elders. This group used to travel on Thursdays and Fridays. An individual who was not a member of the group — a man who until recently was a member of the Council of Guardians — wanted to accompany them. They told him only on one condition. He answered that he would submit to any terms. They told him the first condition is for you to stay at home and not to accompany us. That is what we are saying to the United States. [laughter] If you want to be good to us, the first condition is: Don't be good to us. Try not to pursue this matter of establishing relations with us. You people are mischievous, you are incongruous. While you claim that you want to help us, one hears that you want to capture our relatives and put them in jail. We are trying to help rescue your hostages, while you intend to hold hostages. You, at any rate, are evil."

Hashemi-Rafsanjani then repeats his earlier statement about the unfreezing of Iranian assets as a condition for any possible future talks.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani on McFarlane, U.S. Hostages *LD221044 Tehran IRNA in English 1033 GMT 22 Dec 86*

[Text] Tehran, Dec. 22, IRNA -- The Iranian Ambassador to the U.N., Seyyed Rajai'e-Khorassani, in a meeting with Majlis Speaker Hojjat ol-Eslam 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani here Monday morning briefed him on international issues and also matters related to the clandestine trip of the former U.S. National Security advisor Robert McFarlane to Tehran.

Rajai'e-Khorassani said that imperialist news networks have been doing their best to cover up the latest U.S. scandal.

The Majlis speaker said that in an appropriate time copies of the passports of those who accompanied McFarlane will be published and possibly other documents will be released "if necessary."

If the U.S. wants to solve its problems in the Middle East, Hojjat ol-Eslam Hashemi-Rafsanjani added, it should stop bullying and prove that it was not hostile towards us. The U.S. should release the frozen Iranian assets, he said, adding that it is only then that the Islamic Republic of Iran would mediate to release the American hostages from the Lebanese revolutionaries. Of course, he stressed, such a mediation would be effective only when the U.S. met demands of the Lebanese Muslims.

Tehran Comments on Arms Sale 'Propaganda'

*LD191646 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
0400 GMT 19 Dec 86*

["Review of Foreign Radios" program]

[Excerpts] The crisis besetting the U.S. Black House continues to maintain its vast dimensions, and attempts to control it remain fruitless. In the United States of America and Europe, the people, press, and diplomats are not loath to accuse the authorities in the Reagan administration of telling lies. They are specifically charging Reagan and his government apparatus of fraud and deceit. The atmosphere of a lack of confidence and suspicion of mendacity indulged in by Black House officials has severely damaged U.S. prestige, and in effect has paralyzed that country's policy. [passage omitted]

At a time when the Reagan government is being openly charged with lying and hypocrisy, the U.S. and European peoples are ashamed of having been duped by Reagan's antics. The atmosphere of lack of confidence and suspicion is so overwhelming that despite the dismissal of a number of Black House officials, a relentless pressure to remove other pawns continues. Among those placed on such a blacklist is Casey, head of the U.S. espionage and terrorist organization, better known as the CIA. Reagan, too, who has personally modified his true colors for some time now, has joined ranks with those calling for clarifying the facts. He has openly admitted his mistakes and continues to be criticized by both his friends and rivals, so much so that last November was considered the worst month of his presidency. The rapid consecutive developments have shaken and destroyed the position and prestige he gained after 6 years of skulduggery and duplicity.

The most important events that took place during that single month was the defeat of the Republicans in the Congressional elections, tension among U.S. allies, the Congress's anger with the President, the people's dissatisfaction with Reagan's explanations, the dismissal of several high-ranking government figures, the Black House's bewilderment and stupefaction for having lost its self-confidence, provocations by journalists and finally, Reagan's plummeting popularity. Such developments and victories [as heard] can demonstrate how significant the scale of the recent disgrace suffered by the U.S. Black House is following the fiasco

of the U.S. Government in its attempts to establish links with the Islamic Republic. [passage omitted]

What is significant is that despite all Reagan's disreputable deeds and his loss of credibility inside and outside the United States of America, Western affiliated propaganda media are striving to show that Reagan enjoys a relatively better situation than his colleagues. The degree of lies and falsehoods engaged in by his associates has been such that this is what is claimed: public opinion polls prove that half the U.S. people believe that despite the fact that Reagan is evil, he is still more honorable than other government officials. This in effect demonstrates the level of the U.S. people's suspicion and lack of confidence in that country's politicians. [passage omitted]

One of the people most deeply suspected is the director of the U.S. espionage and terrorist organization, better known as the CIA. It is said that a two-pronged pressure by U.S. Republicans and Democrats is being exerted for his dismissal. This is at a time when he is currently in the hospital for unknown reasons. The CIA director is only one of the people being pressured, and he is being charged with either incompetence or concealing facts. [passage omitted]

Certain reports claim that Casey, the CIA director, has suffered a seizure, while others claim that he has suffered a heart attack; still others, quoting medical authorities, have disclosed that he contemplated, as it were, committing suicide by taking poison. [passage omitted]

In view of the fact that suicide has social and psychological causes the probable attempt by the head of the U.S. terrorist and espionage organization can better demonstrate the scale of the crisis besetting the U.S. Black House and the helplessness of the U.S. ringleaders following that country's disgraceful fiasco in establishing links with the Islamic Republic. However, putting aside what is actually taking place in the United States of America, the strident propaganda engaged in by world arrogance against the Islamic Republic of Iran continues on a vast scale. As we recalled in our previous programs, there is particular premeditation in progress to say that the United States is attempting to deliver arms to Iran rather than attempting to establish links with Iran. While such intent probably will always remain as a propaganda ruse aimed at duping public opinion, the tales related in this connection continue unabated. U.S. and Israeli journalists, imparting roles to new imaginary personalities, attempt to maintain the lure of their web of lies. According to the tales concocted so far, a number of European countries, the U.S. government, the Zionist regime, the Philippines, Turkey, Pakistan, and Egypt or other countries, each and everyone of these has played the starring role, for a short or long time. One day they said that Israeli arms were delivered to Iran; another day, instead of Israel, they named a European country; yet on another they claimed, for instance, that either the Philippines or Turkey had carried out such a mission. And now they say Egypt! In all these myths, what has changed and been replaced is the side delegated, as it were, to deliver arms to Iran, while the rest of the tale remains consistent and repetitive as before. [passage omitted]

Musavi Remarks on UK Spies, Other Topics

*LD211225 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT
21 Dec 86*

[Excerpts] Following this morning's cabinet meeting, which discussed some domestic and international issues, Prime Minister Musavi spoke about the visit to Iran of Sudanese Prime Minister Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi. He said, The interest shown by the officials of both countries to elevate their relations is embedded in the Islamic Revolution. [passage omitted]

The prime minister also spoke about the U.S. officials' admissions and their close intelligence collaboration with the Iraqi Zionist regime in the war against Iran, saying: The open admission made about these facts intensifies our nation's sacred rancor for the U.S. criminals. Today, all the hardships and difficulties suffered by our nation are perpetrated by the United States. We must, therefore, direct all our shouting against the United States. The hands of Yankees are stained with the blood of each of our martyrs. It is therefore ironical that they are shamelessly extending their very blood-stained hands toward us, with a cake and autographed Bible, in order to resume relations.

We have, however, fully understood the United States. That is why we branded their hand appropriately. Musavi added; having recognized the Iraqi regime as a significant element in the implementation of its Middle East policies, the United States is not only engaged in direct intelligence collaboration with that regime, but also it has deceived the USSR, urging it to help its puppet. This mischievous act is not at all less significant than the intelligence cooperation.

The prime minister then added; the pivotal axis in the United States' Middle East policies is to safeguard the Zionist regime. Such close relations between the Iraqi regime and the United States are indicative of the regime's Zionist nature as well as the role played by the Ba'thists in implementing the archaean's Middle East policies with regard to safeguarding the Qods occupying regime. Musavi continued; they have been trying to frighten us for the past 5 years with the prospect of U.S. intervention in the region if we win this war. We now hear that U.S. interference actually started 2 years ago. However, despite this interference, we are now on the threshold of victory. We now understand more than ever before the meaning of the imam's remark that there is nothing the United States can do. [passage omitted]

At the conclusion of the meeting the prime minister had the following to say in reply to a question put to him by our correspondent:

[Begin Musavi recording] At today's meeting we received a report from the Ministry of Information concerning the activities of British spies in Iran. These activities have been rather remarkable. We hope that in subsequent interviews the parts which could be of use may be made available to our people; for they are sensitive about the issue — they have become rather more sensitive in connection with the extensive spy networks which might exist in the country. If we try to get rid of this sensitivity simply because the foundations of the Islamic Revolution have become firm, then, who knows, we might pay dearly for it.

Sensitivity regarding the presence of aliens and the nature of intelligence gathering by them as well as their objectives is one of the sacred duties of our system. God willing, some good information will be made available in this regard to our people. [end recording] [passage omitted]

Montazeri Addresses Students, Officials

*LD192359 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT
19 Dec 86*

[Excerpts] In Qom yesterday, Grand Ayatollah Montazeri met with a group of students and state officials. [passage omitted] Grand Ayatollah Montazeri referred in his speech to the anniversary of the martyrdom of Professor Dr Mohammad Mofatteh, called the Day of Unity between the university and the seminary. He paid tribute to the martyrs before and after the revolution, as well as the martyrs on the front and those from among the clergy and students. He said:

Under the previous regime colonialism, contrived to split the clergy and students and to prevent them from having the same voice or empathy. Colonialism wanted them to be hostile toward each other and to be alienated from one another in order to dominate both sections and to gain control over the country. In order to dominate both sections and to gain control over the country. But thanks to the blessings of the Islamic Revolution and the leadership of the leader of the revolution, this attitude of hostility and conflict was eliminated. Now we can see how these two sections have become united and how they work side by side for Islam, for the revolution, and for their country. [passage omitted]

The grand ayatollah stressed: We should not think of ourselves as small or without dignity, or feel inferior in comparison with foreigners. Our youths' ability and talent are not inferior to others. They are, rather, much superior to most. Just look at America before its discovery by Christopher Columbus and the barbaric state it was in then. Later, however, it developed and reached the state it is in now. One wishes it had not been discovered because the world today would not be plunged into its fire. At any rate, our youths should strive to take full advantage of the present climate of opportunities. [passage omitted]

The grand ayatollah also stressed the importance of commitment and raising the level of spirituality in universities. He said: if we want to prevent universities from becoming centers of activity by deviationists and eclectic minigroups, we should, while drawing the students' attention to the country's political and revolutionary issues, devote greater attention to spiritual and esoteric matters. This is precisely the purpose of our sending representatives to the universities. [passage omitted]

Grand Ayatollah Montazeri referred to the revelations occasionally put about at universities and to crushing of individuals' status. He said: Every individual is liable to make mistakes. It is possible that after many mistakes an individual may repent. Individuals should not be shunned forever.

He then noted that despite the utmost importance the warfronts command — something which should always be borne in mind

— the universities, in their own right, are also a powerful front. this should not be ignored. Grand Ayatollah Montazeri added: You should not worry about shortcomings which are being felt as a result of the war. The position of Muslims at the dawn of Islam was far worse than our and your position today. Nevertheless, under the banner of the prophet, may God's blessings and peace be upon him and his scion, they stood their ground until, eventually, Islam advanced in the world. [passage omitted]

Most exalted God willing, this imposed war will end with a victory for the combatants of Islam, and the country's resources will be devoted to greater development of the country and of the country's scientific institutions and universities. [passage omitted]

Sudanese Prime Minister Continues Visit

Participates in Friday Prayers

LD191715 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 19 Dec 86

[Text] Mr Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi took part in today's Friday prayers ceremonies in Tehran. After the speech by Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani, in a short speech during the prayers addressed to the worshippers, he said:

The relations between us are permanent relations determined by God Almighty, and, just as the Holy Koran has graciously commanded, the faithful are brothers. After Islam's assault by the desires of others, once again Islamic thought has started to stir, thereby bringing in its wake a great deal of blessings.

The Sudanese prime minister said: The Islamic movement, which is based on rising and submitting to God's word and terminating subservience, is bonding our two nations together, thanks to these conceptions, since our ideological school is the same; our Koran is the same; and our Prophet is the same. And now we should establish new relations in accordance with present problems and insight into the future. We have not come to conduct talks on interests and political problems; rather, the main reason for our presence in your country is establishing unity among Muslims!

In connection with the struggles waged by the people of his country, Mr Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi said: In our country a king who was the friend of the shah of Iran was overthrown, since both of them used to impose wrongdoing and corruption on the people. Therefore, despite such problems, we should jointly act toward the realization of common objectives!

Opens New Embassy

LD191738 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 19 Dec 86

[Text] Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi, prime minister and defense minister of Sudan, who is heading a high-ranking politico-economic and cultural delegation on a visit to the Islamic Republic of Iran, this morning inaugurated the Embassy of the Republic of Sudan in Tehran.

According to our correspondent's report, this ceremony was attended by Foreign Minister Velayati, the deputy prime minister for political affairs, a group of political officials of both countries, as well as ambassadors and political representatives of foreign countries in Tehran. At the conclusion of the inauguration ceremony, Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi was interviewed by reporters. He said that the inauguration of the Sudanese Embassy in Tehran is a positive step in strengthening and expanding relations between the two countries. As a condemnation of the policies of the Numayri regime, the present state of bilateral relations is a suitable basis for consolidating relations between the two countries. He stated: The foreign policy of Sudan is currently based on a nonaligned and independent policy. Our intention is to expand relations with Islamic, Arab, and African countries, and to establish various grounds for cooperation with these countries.

Continuing this interview, the Sudanese prime minister expressed the hope that Sudan may be able to base its foreign relations on the goal of advancing peace and international cooperation. He considered that this trip and the talks carried out with the Islamic Republic of Iran's officials have provided the best opportunity for establishing a framework of bilateral cooperation, and felt that the most important objective of this trip has been the exchange of opinion and discussion on the necessity for Islamic unity. He said: In these discussions and their continuation, the foundations for the achievement of this objective will be established.

In connection with the actions of some individuals who are trying to create factionalism and tension within the nation by broaching the question of ethnicity and such things as differences between Arabs and Persians or Shi'ite's and Sunnis, Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi stated: The superpowers and the enemies of Islam in the region, especially Zionism, take advantage of these existing contradictions and differences of opinions. Our duty is to prevent the enemies of Islam from taking advantage and benefiting from this, through friendship and the strengthening of our relations.

In reply to a question about the war imposed against Iran, the Sudanese prime minister rejected the point that Sudan intends to act as intermediary in the war. He stated: The question of the war is a great problem, and we are ready to obtain a correct understanding of Iran's stances so that we may assess what Sudan could do in order to establish Islamic justice.

Meets Hashemi-Rafsanjani

LD191747 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 19 Dec 86

[Text] Sudanese Prime Minister Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi and the high-ranked delegation accompanying him, met with Speaker of the Islamic Consultative Assembly Hashemi-Rafsanjani yesterday afternoon.

Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi referred to the ever increasing strength of the Islamic Revolution of Iran, and stressed the need for continuous expansion of relations between the two countries. He explained: We knew from the start that the repugnant enemies do not want the Islamic Revolution to continue and that they are always trying to trip up the revolution in order to bring about its

downfall. He thanked God that the Islamic Republic of Iran has been able to overcome many of its problems and to strengthen its bases. The prime minister of Sudan reminded that relations between the two countries is not confined to the framework of existing politico-diplomatic relations but that a genuine intellectual and religious dimension exists which binds the two countries and the two revolutions together.

He said: We speak from the basis of our belief in Islam and we know that the warmongering powers are trying to delay our movement or to defeat it. Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi stated: We are trying to explain Islam to the world and to introduce Islam as a power that grants justice to all the deprived and condemns dependency on foreigners everywhere. We both think the same on this issue.

He also stressed the expansion of commercial and economic relations and other areas based on common religions and cultures and expressed hope that the two countries, may, by relying on the many things they share in common and, through the realization of collaboration and problems common to both countries, arrive at their objectives.

Then Hashemi-Rafsanjani spoke. He said: Throughout African history, Sudan has always carried weight and it can still be important. We believe that if an invulnerable Islamic Revolution base can be established in Sudan, it can play an effective role in Africa and in the world of Islam. We saw nothing good in the rule of the previous regime in Sudan, and even the Islamic slogans that were brought out by the previous regime caused us anxiety. But now we have much hope of Sudan's ability to fulfill its role.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani explained that the Islamic Republic of Iran has been waiting for an opportunity to strengthen its relations with Sudan so that it can fulfill its Islamic duty toward Sudan and Africa. He said: In spite of the fact that the war has created problems for us, nevertheless we feel that we have the strength to see to other problems. We consider your excellency's visit to the Islamic Republic of Iran as a good opportunity and we hope that we can cooperate with each other over various issues. We have no doubt that there exist enough common points between us for this cooperation so that we can utilize the resources of both countries toward achievement of the objectives of the two revolutions.

The speaker of the Islamic Consultative Assembly stressed: Both Westerners and Easterners are afraid of genuine Islam. He continued: If you are seeking a superficial Islam you will not have too many problems, but you will have serious problems if you want to implement your perception and understanding of Islam as a revolutionary and resistant Muslim. If you are genuine Muslims, then neighbors such as Egypt will certainly not leave you alone. In any case, the Islamic Republic of Iran is ready for profound cooperation with those Islamic countries which want to be genuinely Muslim in accordance with their religion.

In conclusion, Hashemi-Rafsanjani stressed the expansion of bilateral relations and the readiness of the Islamic Republic of Iran to place its successful experiences throughout the victory of the Islamic Revolution at the disposal of Sudan. He expressed hope that the people and government of Sudan may be able to

solidify their revolution, and to make their enemies despair by eliminating domestic and foreign problems.

Meets With Musavi

LD201738 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT
20 Dec 86

[Text] [Passage indistinct] Our country's prime minister explained: We believe that the Israel problem can be solved through an Islamic solution, and overcoming the usurping Israel cannot be attained except through an Islamic solution.

The prime minister emphasized: The agreements reached during this meeting demonstrate the depth of our progress toward lofty Islamic aspirations; this in itself constitutes a valuable historic step, and we hope to see the effects of this valuable movement in relations with the Third World countries.

According to this report, Prime Minister of Sudan Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi, while expressing thanks for the hospitality of the Muslim Iranian people, expressed his pleasure at becoming acquainted with the achievements of the Islamic Revolution, and expounded his views on the achievements of Iran's Islamic Revolution.

The Sudanese prime minister said: In the course of my visit to Iran I witnessed deep changes within the people of your country which, together with the stabilization of the Islamic system in Iran, have strengthened the hearts of world Muslims. The Islamic system has driven its foundations firmly into the ground, and it embodies a rich and fruitful experience for the peoples of the world. Iran's Islamic system, leaning on domestic capabilities during the postrevolutionary years, has been able to set up and administer a government with new economic, popular aspirations, with new ideas, new armed forces, and a new Islamic culture.

Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi said: Despite all the plots hatched and onslaughts carried out against Iran's Islamic Revolution, all those holding the reins of power in the Islamic Republic of Iran enjoy high morale and are optimistically looking toward the future. Iran's Islamic system, leaning on the infinite source of faith and relying on God and on a pious nation, has confronted a great many plots and, by safeguarding its Islamic and independence-seeking viewpoints, has succeeded in distancing itself from the colonialists and in continuing its blessed life.

The Sudanese prime minister also said: These developments show your strong will vis-a-vis the Eastern and Western colonialists powers, which seek to rule the world.

Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi described the achievements of his visit to the Islamic Republic of Iran as both valuable and fruitful, and said: We want the relations between Sudan and the Islamic Republic to become an example and model for Islamic countries, and also to increase our cooperation on a regional level compared with the international level.

Emphasizing the need to expand relations between the two nations and to exchange political, economic, and cultural delegations between the two countries, the Sudanese prime minister

invited Prime Minister Mir Hoseyn Musavi to pay an official visit to Sudan, expressing the hope that he would soon be his host in Khartoum, the capital of Sudan.

In conclusion, Mir Hoseyn Musavi, emphasizing the significance of exchanging delegations at various levels between the two countries, expressed thanks for Al-Sadiq Al-Mahdi's invitation to visit Sudan, and expressed the hope that he would visit Sudan as soon as the opportunity arose.

According to this report, during this round of talks, also attended by Ayatollahi, minister of mines and metals; Mo'ayyeri, political deputy to the prime minister; a number of deputies of the Islamic Consultative Assembly, and officials from the relevant ministries, and Adam Musa Madibu, Sudanese minister of energy and mining, and a number of high-ranking Sudanese officials, the two countries' prime ministers studied the agreements reached and specified the phases for their carrying out these agreements.

Meets With Montazeri

LD201148 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0330 GMT 20 Dec 86

[Text] Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi, Sudanese prime minister and defense minister, accompanied by his entourage yesterday met and held talks with Grand Ayatollah Montazeri. During the meeting, which was also attended by Prime Minister Mir Hoseyn Musavi, Grand Ayatollah Montazeri welcomed Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi and the delegation accompanying him, and said: I am pleased to meet you in your country, Iran, and in your city, Qom, as you are an Islamic individual, a statesman, and a man coming from a clerical family. The African Continent, which has lived under the oppression of colonialism for years, is now tired of colonial injustice and its salvation lies solely in Islam. It should be noted that if Islam is correctly understood and implemented it fully respects the rights of all the oppressed. It is now felt that the African Continent, after many years of oppression and injustice at the hands of colonialists, is now thirsting for dear Islam. It is our important duty to strive and endeavor as much as we can for the growth and progress of Islam on this continent.

He later stressed: I expect you to advise the Persian Gulf states with which you have contact not to abase and humble themselves before America and Britain. They should not do anything that would pave the way for those two countries to have free access to the Persian Gulf. The United States and Britain have never respected the rights and interests of Muslims.

Regarding the assistance given to Saddam's regime from Persian Gulf states, Grand Ayatollah Montazeri noted: Why don't these governments let Saddam's rotten regime fall so that the Muslim Iraqi nation can bring a suitable regime to power in that country? It should be pointed out that we do not aspire to have a single inch of Iraqi territory. Our objective in this imposed war is to defend Islam, and the Persian Gulf governments should realize that if Saddam continues to stay in power, he will not pity any one of them. He will only pressure them as much as he can.

Citing a number of verses regarding infidels, Jews, and Christians, and their relationships with the Muslims, he noted the need for Muslims to cut off their ties with them and said: advise the Persian Gulf governments that the threat against Islam and Muslims today comes from the United States, Israel, and other infidel governments. In order to safeguard Islam, Muslims should unite in a strong front against blasphemy.

In conclusion, Prime Minister Musavi briefed Grand Ayatollah Montazeri on the political, economic and development projects which are being implemented by the governments of Iran and Sudan. Grand Ayatollah Montazeri also gave appropriate guidance.

Departs For Home

LD201757 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 20 Dec 86

[Excerpt] Sudanese Prime Minister and Defense Minister Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi left Tehran this evening for Khartoum. He was seen off by Prime Minister Musavi; several cabinet ministers and Majlis deputies; a number of our country's political, economic and cultural officials; and ambassadors and heads of foreign missions in the Islamic Republic. Mr Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi led a high-ranking political, economic, and cultural delegation on a 4-day official visit to Tehran.

During the final stage of the Sudanese delegation's visit to Tehran a political, economic, and cultural protocol was signed between the two countries at Mehrabad Airport. The protocol was signed by Minister of Mines and Metals Ayatollahi for the Islamic Republic, and by the Sudan minister of energy and mines in the presence of the two countries' prime ministers. [passage omitted]

Ship Detained by Italy To Depart 21 Dec

LD210722 Tehran IRNA in English 0715 GMT 21 Dec 86

[Text] Rome, Dec. 21, IRNA — Captain of the Iranian ship *Iran Jihad* said Saturday that the ship will leave Italian waters Saturday night and refrain from calling at another Italian ports as it was previously scheduled. This, Captain Hoseyn 'Ali Yazdani said, was in protest against unlawful and irresponsible acts of Italian ports authorities in detaining the vessel.

Captain Hoseyn 'Ali Yazdani in a statement said that the ship will leave Italian waters and head for Iran without calling at other Italian port.

Deploing the unfriendly behaviour and illegal treatment of Italian ports authorities, the captain said that such acts were not only in violation of international laws but damaged credibility of Italian ports officials.

Reportage on Combat Operations in War With Iraq**F-14 Downing Denied***LD191802 Tehran IRNA in English 1758 GMT 19 Dec 86*

[Text] Tehran, Dec. 19 IRNA — An Iranian military source at the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces Friday categorically denied Iraq's claim of having downed an Iranian F-14 fighter plane over the Persian Gulf Friday.

Earlier on Friday a spokesman of the Iraqi armed forces claimed that Iraqi war planes had chased and downed one F-14 plane of Iran over the Persian Gulf waters. International news agencies, too, repeatedly reported the Iraqi claim as news.

80 Killed in Bombings*LD211646 Tehran IRNA in English 1547 GMT 21 Dec 86*

[Text] Bakhtaran, Dec 21, IRNA — More than 80 civilians were martyred and many others wounded as a result of bombardments of residential quarters here by Iraqi warplanes Sunday.

The city's inhabited areas were bombed by enemy fighter bombers three times damaging a number of housing units.

The town of Esfahabad-e Gharbi, in Bakhtaran Province, was also attacked by Iraqi warplanes Sunday causing some civilian casualties.

Meanwhile, following these inhuman attacks, the Islamic Republic of Iran announced Sunday afternoon that it will retaliate by subjecting Iraqi military-industrial areas to long-range artillery fire for 24 hours starting 16:30 GMT Sunday.

'Heavy Shelling' of Iraq Begun*NC220552 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 22 Dec 86*

[Text] The combatants of Islam began heavy shelling of all industrial, economic, and military centers in Iraq, except its four safe cities, at 2000 [1630 GMT] in answer to the fresh crimes committed by the Iraqi Zionist regime in attacking our country's residential areas, and thus initiated deterrent and retaliatory operations that will continue for 24 hours.

It should be recalled that during the Zionist Iraqi regime's air raids yesterday on residential areas in the resistant city of Bakhtaran, which resulted in the martyrdom and wounding of a large number of resistant Bakhtaran residents and the destruction of their homes, an official from the War Information Headquarters announced that, in answer to the attacks by the Zionist Iraqi regime on our country's residential areas, the Islamic Republic of Iran will attack all industrial and military centers in Iraqi cities, except its four safe cities.

More Die in Continued Bombing*LD221029 Tehran IRNA in English 1026 GMT 22 Dec 86*

[Text] Bakhtaran, Dec. 22, IRNA — At least 100 civilians were martyred and many others wounded in Iraqi bombing of Esfahabad-e Gharb, southwest of here Monday morning.

Residential areas in the city were savagely bombarded by intruding Iraqi warplanes three times resulting in the martyrdom and wounding of scores of innocent women, children, and elderly people.

The Muslim people of the city along with relief workers immediately rushed to the scene to aid the victims. Efforts to take more possible victims out from under the rubble was still continuing until 10:00 GMT.

Communique No 2690*LD191701 Tehran IRNA in English 1648 GMT 19 Dec 86*

[Text] Tehran, Dec. 19, IRNA — A number of Iraqi warplanes attempting to violate the airspace of Ahvaz, Khuzestan Province, at 10:00 hours local time (06:30 hours GMT) Friday were forced to flee by Iranian anti-aircraft fire, said a military communique here.

Communique Number 2690 released by the Joint Staff Command of Iran's Armed Forces said that Iranian Muslim forces continued fortifying their positions and opened heavy artillery and tank fire on Iraqi positions inflicting substantial casualties and losses on enemy troops.

Ten Iraqi soldiers were killed in an operational theater in the southern fronts Thursday when they were shelled by Iranian Gendarmerie forces, the communique said.

Elsewhere in the southern fronts, a number of Iraqi soldiers were killed and parts of enemy positions set ablaze by Iranian artillery fire Thursday. Enemy troops were also prevented from fortifying their positions.

The military communique furthermore said that convoys of Iranian patrols gathered intelligence on key Iraqi positions in Marivan, Piranshahr, and Sardasht operational theaters, north-western fronts, Thursday setting fire to several enemy gun emplacements.

Heavy Iranian artillery fire on Iraqi armored units in Badrah, Nahr 'Anbar, Eynkhosh and Yebis on Thursday set ablaze a number of enemy tanks and halted enemy operations, according to the communique.

Elsewhere, the communique said that reconnaissance flights of Iraqi helicopters in Panjwin, northwestern fronts, as well as movements of enemy tanks in Kelaleh, southern fronts, were checked by Iranian forces Thursday.

Iranian forces shelled an Iraqi armored unit in the southern operational theater of Helaleh Thursday silencing enemy tank fire and forcing it to change its positions, said the communique.

According to the Joint Staff Communique, Iranian Muslim combatants checked reconnaissance flights of Iraqi helicopters and disrupted enemy logistical operations in Mehran and Naft-e Shah, western fronts, Thursday.

Exchange of artillery fire continued in Ilam and Bakhtaran border fronts Thursday raging somewhat more heavily in Sumar and Qasr-e Shirin.

Communique No 2691

LD201720 Tehran IRNA in English 1636 GMT 20 Dec 86

[Text] Tehran, Dec. 20, IRNA — Iraqi forces sustained heavy casualties and several enemy tanks, bunkers and observation posts as well as several vehicles of theirs were destroyed in artillery duels with Iranian forces throughout the fronts Friday, said a military communique here Saturday.

Communique number 2691 released by the Joint Staff Command of Iran's armed forces said that Iranian Gendarmerie forces maintained their fire superiority over Iraqi troops in parts of the southern and western fronts Friday killing or wounding a number of enemy troops and setting afire several bunkers and observation posts of theirs. One enemy tank was also destroyed.

Exchange of artillery fire continued in Ilam and Bakhtaran border fronts Friday raging somewhat more heavily in Sumar and Qasr-e Shirin operational theaters as a result of which heavy casualties were inflicted on Iraqi troops and several enemy tanks were (?destroyed).

The military communique furthermore said that several Iraqi vehicles were destroyed in the southern fronts by Iranian artillery fire Friday. In Kushk operational region, enemy troops were prevented from fortifying their positions. In the northwestern fronts, the communique said, Iranian forces despite bad weather checked movements of Iraqi vehicle columns and opened heavy artillery and mortar fire on enemy positions inflicting substantial casualties and losses on them.

Two convoys of Iraqi patrols attempting to infiltrate Iranian positions in Bejliyah and Pich-e Angizeh southern fronts Friday

suffered several casualties and were forced to flee under Iranian artillery fire, the communique said.

Communique No 2692

LD211619 Tehran IRNA in English 1545 GMT 21 Dec 86

[Text] Tehran, Dec 21, IRNA — A large number of civilians were martyred or wounded when Iraqi warplanes bombed several residential areas in the western Iranian city of Bakhtaran at 09:00 and 12:55 hours GMT Sunday. Heavy damage was also inflicted on the city, said a Military Communique here.

Communique Number 2692 released by the Joint Staff Command of Iran's armed forces said that Iraqi forces suffered some casualties and losses in artillery duels with Iranian Muslim combatants throughout the fronts Saturday.

Iranian Gendarmerie forces shelled Iraqi positions in parts of the southern and western fronts Saturday killing a number of enemy soldiers and destroying at least 10 gun emplacements and two command jeeps of theirs. A convoy of enemy patrols sustained some casualties and was forced to flee in Qasr-e Shirin Saturday as it was shelled by the Iranian Gendarms.

Exchange of artillery fire continued in the western fronts (?Saturday raging) somewhat more heavily in Sumar and Naft-e Shah where enemy positions were pounded and their engineering operations halted. In Kani-Sheykh, operations of Iraqi infantry units were suppressed.

Iraqi soldiers sustained considerable casualties and losses when their positions were shelled by Iranian forces in Ilam and Bakhtaran border fronts.

In the southern fronts, parts of Iraqi patrols in Hajj 'Umrin operational theater, northwestern fronts, Saturday inflicting heavy casualties on them and forcing them to retreat.

Iranian forces prevented Iraqi troops from fortifying their positions in Sharhani and Bejliyah, southern fronts, and silenced enemy tank fire elsewhere in areas overlooking Khorramshahr and Yebis Saturday. Enemy engineering operations were also halted, the communique said.

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

23 DECEMBER 1986

Iran-Iraq War

Tehran radio reported that Iraqi planes launched further raids on residential areas of Bakhtaran 23 December, citing provisional estimates that 10 people were killed and 124 injured.

Earlier, an Iraqi spokesman cited by INA denied Iran's claim that Iraqi aircraft bombed residential areas in Eslamabad-e Gharb 22 December, stressing that Iraqi raids that day were directed against military targets in the operational sectors. An Iraqi military communique broadcast by Voice of the Masses radio noted that the targets included a camp and ammunition depot in Shahabad, the former name for Eslamabad-e Gharb. In further reports on the results of Iraqi attacks, Tehran radio said that 43 civilians were killed in Eslamabad-e Gharb, while IRNA announced that the death toll from the 21 December raid on Bakhtaran had risen to 103.

As for the naval war, an Iranian military statement reported by IRNA asserted that the Iranian Navy sunk three Iraqi frigates in the Khawr 'Abdallah channel 22 December. The claim was denied by an Iraqi spokesman cited by INA.

Lebanon: Camps War

Arab League foreign ministers issued a statement in Tunis calling for an immediate cease-fire in the camps war and for an end to the siege of Palestinian camps in Lebanon, KUNA reported. The ministers formed an eight-man committee to mediate an end to the fighting, the agency said, noting that the committee consists of the Arab League secretary general and the foreign ministers of Algeria, Jordan, the UAE, Tunisia, Kuwait, Mauritania, and the YAR.

Voice of Lebanon radio reported further clashes in Beirut 22 December and also cited reports of renewed shelling of Al-Rashidiyah camp, south of Tyre.

Iran: Internal Affairs

"Some officials" have written certain things about the dissolution of the amnesty committee which are untrue, Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini told members of the committee in a letter broadcast by Tehran radio. The committee has not been dissolved, he stressed, and it must continue its work with care and precision.

French Officials in Iran, Egypt

A French delegation began talks with officials in Tehran on settling French-Iranian financial disputes, IRNA reported.

Reporting on talks between the French and Egyptian foreign ministers in Cairo, MENA said the two sides expressed "identical views" on issues discussed, which included the Palestinian issue, Lebanon, the Iran-Iraq war, and Chad.

Libya and Chad

A Chadian military communique broadcast by Ndjamena radio accused the Libyans of using napalm and "toxic gases" against the inhabitants of Zouar, in the Tibesti region. The communique spoke of "fierce fighting" as the Libyans launched another attack on Zouar. However, Tripoli television broadcast a Foreign Liaison Bureau statement reaffirming Libya's claim that it has "no connection" with the fighting in northern Chad. Accusing the United States and France of trying to "internationalize" the internal conflict in Chad, the statement warned that Libya "will not stand quietly before the U.S. and French aggression because the matter now threatens the security of its southern borders."

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Najibullah Addresses DYOA Secretaries 23 Dec*LD230657 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0515 GMT 23 Dec 86*

[Text] Kabul, December 22, BAKHTAR — The party and state of the DRA have always called for the political solution of the situation around Afghanistan and we are enjoying the permanent support of the CPSU and the Soviet state in this respect. This was stated by Najib, general secretary of the PDPA CC, at the second nation-wide session of the secretaries of the primary organisations of the Army youth which was held here today.

The DRA and the Soviet Union have exerted considerable efforts for the normalisation of the relations between the DRA and Pakistan. These efforts will be stepped up in the future. The eighth round of talks between Afghanistan and Pakistan at the level of foreign ministers will be held in Geneva shortly, stressed Najib. Lately, the prospects for the improvement of political conditions in the region in the near future are not bright.

The enemies of Afghanistan, said Najib, correlate all the problems to the presence of the limited military contingents of the Soviet Union in the DRA whereas this depends upon the mutual relations of both the countries, Najib pointed out. The fact that the limited military contingents of the Soviet Union will return to their homeland has been made clear to all. The question is only on the time schedule. This could be expedited to the extent that the Armed Forces of the DRA would be able to defend the people from the danger of domestic and foreign enemies. It now depends on the practical guarantees to be provided for non-intervention from abroad, said Najib.

Calling on the youths of the country, Najib said that in considering these issues the Democratic Youth Organisation of Afghanistan should devote much attention to the question of armed defence of the country, the people, and the revolution.

IRNA Reports NFF Deputy Shot by Mujahidin*LD220927 Tehran IRNA in English 0850 GMT 22 Dec 86*

[Text] Zahedan, Sistan-Baluchistan Prov., Dec 21. IRNA — The deputy of Afghanistan's National Fatherland Front [NFF], Reza Marvi, was shot and injured by Afghan Muslim mujahidin in Herat on Dec 17, said informed sources here Sunday. The sources added that Marvi was one of the main agents of the Soviet-backed regime of Afghanistan who pretends to play the role of a mediator between the Afghans and the government. Marvi was shot in one of the streets of Herat.

Meanwhile the Afghan Muslim mujahidin who are fighting against the Afghan Government and occupying Soviet forces, killed another government agent, Delavar, in Qezel Eslam border

area, Dec 15. Delavar and several other government forces residing in a military vehicle hit a mine planted by mujahidin. All passengers of the car were killed. According to reliable Afghan sources Delavar was in charge of the forces assigned to crush the mujahidin in the Qezel Eslam border region.

In another development the Afghan Muslim mujahidin in two separate operations on Dec 1 and 8 in Herat killed six senior officers and two other military personnel. In these operations 16 of the Afghan soldiers joined the mujahidin.

Reportage on Further Operations by Mujahidin**Forces Attacked Near Lowgar***BK221549 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu
1500 GMT 22 Dec 86*

[Text] Reports from Afghanistan say that the mujahidin attacked Soviet-Kabul positions in (Qala Sohrab) near Lowgar killing or wounding 14 soldiers. In retaliation, the Soviet-Kabul forces bombarded the area from helicopters killing many civilians. Reports also say that mujahidin attacked security posts in (Qutub Khel) and Bad Qaq killing 10 persons.

10 Soviet-Kabul Troops Killed*BK201128 Karachi Domestic Service in English
1100 GMT 20 Dec 86*

[Text] In Afghanistan, the mujahidin surrounded the Army post near the (Nowman) town in Parwan Province recently and killed 10 Soviet-Kabul troops. According to another report, the mujahidin attacked the mobile security force near the provincial headquarter of Charikar and killed or injured 13 Soviet-Kabul troops. A tank and Army vehicle were destroyed during the operation.

Karachi Reports Helicopter Downed*BK191643 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu
1500 GMT 19 Dec 86*

[Text] In Afghanistan, the mujahidin shot down a helicopter in Jaghuri, the subdivision of Ghazni. This helicopter became the target of missiles as it flew over mujahidin positions.

Another report says the mujahidin repulsed an attack by Soviet-Kabul forces in (Farwai) subdivision, killing more than 15 soldiers and capturing 14. Among the killed and injured there were one colonel, one captain, and three junior officers.

Policy Advisory Committee Chairman Resigns
BK221555 Delhi Domestic Service in English
 1530 GMT 22 Dec 86

[Text] Mr G. Parthasarathi, chairman of the Policy Advisory Committee, has resigned. The prime minister has accepted the resignation. This was officially announced in New Delhi today.

Ministers Brief Gandhi on Talks With Jayewardene
BK221654 Delhi Domestic Service in English
 1530 GMT 22 Dec 86

[Text] The two union ministers, Mr Natwar Singh and Mr Chidambaram, who have been engaged in finding an equitable and durable solution to the ethnic problem in Sri Lanka, today reported to Mr Rajiv Gandhi about their discussions with President Jayewardene in Colombo. The two ministers are just back from Sri Lanka after prolonged talks with Mr Jayewardene and others on the issue. They will meet the Tamil Nadu chief minister, Mr M.G. Ramachandran, in New Delhi tomorrow and brief him about their talks.

Later this week they will proceed to Madras for discussions with Tamil groups in their efforts to find a solution to the issue.

Spokesman Denies Talks Deadlocked
BK221646 Delhi Domestic Service in English
 1530 GMT 21 Dec 86

[Excerpt][Passage omitted] An official spokesman told newsmen in New Delhi this evening that the discussions with President Jayewardene were useful. He described some reports appearing in a section of the press that the talks were deadlocked as baseless and speculative. The dialogue will continue by the parties concerned, he added.

Home Secretary Tells Gandhi of Pakistan Talks
BK221652 Delhi Domestic Service in English
 1530 GMT 22 Dec 86

[Text] The home secretary, Mr C. G. Somiah, apprised the prime minister today of the Indian delegation's discussions with the Pakistani interior secretary and his colleagues in Lahore. The foreign secretary, Mr Vankateswaran, and the Indian ambassador to Pakistan, Mr S.K. Singh, were present. Later, they reported to the Cabinet Committee on Political Affairs about the discussions with the Pakistani officials.

Addressee Newsmen's Questions
BK221628 Delhi Domestic Service in English
 1530 GMT 21 Dec 86

[Text] India and Pakistan have agreed on a package of measures to combat problems like terrorism, illegal crossing of borders, drug trafficking, and smuggling. This was disclosed by the home

secretary, Mr G.C. Somiah, in New Delhi today. The package was evolved during the 2-day official-level talks which Mr Somiah had with his Pakistani counterpart, Mr S.K. Mahmud, in Lahore. Answering questions by newsmen, Mr Somiah said the outcome of the agreement would depend upon sincere follow-up and implementation of the measures agreed upon between the two countries.

Replying to a question, the home secretary said India did put forward at the meeting the evidence about the involvement of Pakistan in the terrorist activities in Punjab. He said the Pakistani side was receptive to the evidence placed before it. Mr Somiah said the reaction of the Pakistani officials was also positive to another suggestion that persons caught while crossing the border between the two countries should be sent back. The home secretary said he is satisfied with the response and approach of the Pakistani side to the problems discussed.

A joint press release issued at the end of the talks says Pakistan has assured India that it will not provide any support to terrorist activities directed against India. It says the Pakistan Government is opposed to all forms of terrorism in Punjab and elsewhere.

The two countries have agreed to set up a committee to combat drug trafficking and smuggling. It will have five members each from India and Pakistan and will meet periodically to evolve a common strategy to counter and eliminate these activities. The two sides will also exchange information relating to drug traffickers and smugglers for speedy follow-up action.

As an immediate step toward controlling illegal border crossings, the two sides agreed to strengthen cooperation between the border security forces. The two secretaries also reviewed the situation as it exists along the border and agreed to constitute a committee to draft new ground rules for the consideration of the two governments. The All India Radio Islamabad correspondent, R.K. Mathur, reports that the two sides reiterated their resolve to establish good-neighborly relations, reaffirming the commitment of their governments to the Simla Agreement.

DMK Members Expelled From Tamil Nadu Assembly
BK221352 Delhi Domestic Service in English
 1230 GMT 22 Dec 86

[Text] The Tamil Nadu assembly has expelled 10 [number as heard] DMK members for violating the oath of office by burning copies of part 17 of the Constitution at public places. An official resolution to this effect was moved by the leader of the House, Mr V.R. Nedunchezian. The motion was carried by 131 votes in favor and 24 against. The expelled members include the leader of the DMK legislature party, Mr K. Anbazhagan. The other members are Mr S. Balan, Mr A. Selvarajan, (Erumavazhuthi), Mr R. Chinnaswamy, Mr M. Abraham, Mr C. Arumugam, and Mr V.K. Raju.

The members of the ruling AIADMK [All India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam] and the nominated members supported the move while the DMK, CPI, CPI-M, Janata, Indian Union of Muslim League, and All India Forward Block opposed it. The Congress-I walked out of the House even before the opposition

pressed for division. The 1-day session of the assembly later adjourned sine die.

Army Alerted in Goa After Increased Violence

BK211608 Delhi Domestic Service in English

1530 GMT 21 Dec 86

[Text] The Army has been alerted in the wake of increasing violent incidents in south Goa, particularly in Margao City. For the first time after the liberation of Goa, an army flag march was held in the city in the evening. Road blocks were set up at various places. In a group clash in Dongri in south Goa, 2 persons were killed and 10 persons injured. The clash took place when some people who were removing road blocks were attacked by the agitationists.

Rail and road traffic in south Goa continued to be disrupted for the 3d day today. Air traffic was also disrupted. People took out processions in south Goa to the residences of the information minister, Mr Baikunth Desai; the agriculture minister, Mr Francisco Sardinha; and a Congress-I member of the Legislative Assembly, Mr Manuel Fernandes. There are reports of stone throwing on the residences of Mr Sardinha and Mr Fernandes. Tourists have been stranded at various places due to the agitation.

Meanwhile, the lieutenant governor of Goa, Dr Gopal Singh, has ordered a magisterial inquiry into yesterday's firing incident at (Goghal), Margao, in which one person died. Meanwhile, the union minister of state for external affairs, Mr Eduardo Faleiro, has appealed to the people to shun violence and promised that the twin issues of statehood and Konkani language will be resolved by the center.

AFP Reports on Situation

NC211908 Paris AFP in English 1851 GMT 21 Dec 86

[Text] New Delhi, Dec 21 (AFP) — Troops moved in to quell violence in the former Portuguese enclave of Goa Sunday night as two people died and more than a dozen others were injured in renewed language riots, taking the death toll to four in two days of violence, the *Press Trust of India* said. Some 3,500 rioters stormed the house of a local minister and the entire capital town of Panaji was plunged into darkness after the power supply system was sabotaged, the news agency said.

Goa, a tiny federally administered territory on the western Arabian sea coast with a population of just over one million, became part of India after liberation from the Portuguese in 1961. The language campaign flared into violence in the face of opposition from Goa's Marathi-speaking minority to Konkani being made the territory's official language. Marathi is the official language in neighbouring Maharashtra state which has Bombay as its capital.

PTI said villagers of Dongri in Margao, some 10 kilometres (six miles) to the south of Panaji, fired on Konkani language supporters, enraged over road barricades erected by the latter in the area. Police were quoted as saying that at least two died and 14 others

were injured in the shooting by the apparently Marathi-speaking villagers. Two had died Saturday, one in police gunfire and another in rival group violence, newspapers said earlier.

At Curtorim, near Panaji, some 3,500 Konkani supporters stormed and ransacked the ancestral house of Goa Agriculture Minister Francisco Sardinha. They had gone there to ask the minister to [be] quiet as part of a general call given by the Konkani activists to all the local legislators and ministers to resign on the language issue.

Some 500 additional para-military Central Reserve Police (CRP) personnel had been flown into Goa as the situation worsened, PTI said.

Situation 'Under Control'

BK220310 Delhi Domestic Service in English

0240 GMT 22 Dec 86

[Text] In south Goa the situation is under control. According to the inspector general of police, no untoward incident has been reported for the last 12 hours. Road blockades are continuing in various parts of south Goa. There are reports of minor road blockades in the capital city of Panaji. Meanwhile, the lieutenant governor, Dr Gopal Singh, has appealed to the people of Goa to keep peace and shun violence. In a statement in Panaji last night, he said all political parties and linguistic organizations had given him the solemn undertaking that they will not agitate over the question of language or statehood for Goa by taking to the streets.

Army Units Leave, on Standby

BK220905 Delhi Domestic Service in English

0830 GMT 22 Dec 86

[Text] In south Goa the situation is reported to be tense but under control. Road blockades are continuing in various parts. Some of the culverts were damaged at some places paralyzing vehicular traffic. Normal life remained affected in several places, including Margao and Vasco. UNI, quoting a government spokesman, said that the Army units which moved into Margao were sent back to the barracks with standby orders. More CRPF [Central Reserve Police Force] units have been airlifted to the union territory to check violence. A PTI report said there were incidents of road blocks in Tivim and Calangute in north Goa. The agency said a fishing net factory was set on fire at Margao last night. A house and two milk booths were set ablaze. The lieutenant governor of Goa has announced a grant of 20,000 rupees for the family of those killed in the police firing at Margao. He has also ordered a magisterial inquiry into the incident. The demonstrators are demanding official status for Konkani and statehood for Goa.

Efforts Made To Restore Normalcy

BK230921 Delhi Domestic Service in English

0830 GMT 23 Dec 86

[Text] The situation in south Goa continues to be disturbed with road and rail traffic still affected in many areas. No major incident has been reported since this morning. The death toll in

Sunday's group clash at Dongri has risen to six with the recovery of one more body today. Normal life at Margao and Vasco has been disrupted and it was partially affected in Panaji. Police are removing road blocks at several places and they have cleared the Margao-Panaji road via Ponda. The funeral of a youth killed in the police firing at Margao on Saturday passed off peacefully today.

Meanwhile, the chief minister, Mr Pratap Singh Rane, told newsmen in Panaji this morning that every effort will be made to restore normalcy and no efforts will be spared to maintain law and order. Mr Rane also said that the Goa assembly session will be held in the first week of February next year and the language issue will be solved in the House as the official language bill is before it.

Four cabinet ministers of Goa and the pradesh [state] Congress-I chief, Mrs Sulochana Katkar, are leaving for New Delhi this evening for consultations at the invitation of the minister of state for external affairs, Mr Eduardo Faleiro. The main opposition party in the Goa assembly — the Maharshttravadi Gomantak Party — has demanded the resignation of Rane ministry and imposition of president's rule. The president of the party, Mr

Ramakant Khalap, told newsmen that the government has failed to protect the life and property of people in south Goa.

Death Toll Rises to 5

BK221651 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1530 GMT 22 Dec 86

[Excerpts] In south Goa the death toll in yesterday's group clashes has risen to 5 with the discovery of three more bodies. The situation continues to be tense as more incidents of road blockades are reported. Air, rail, and road traffic remained paralyzed for the 4th day. Normal life in Panaji, Vasco, and Margao was disrupted with most of the establishments remaining closed except government offices. [passage omitted] According to an official spokesman in Panaji all road blocks have been cleared in the capital city. Regular bus service will be resumed tomorrow.

The lieutenant governor, Dr Gopal Singh, today called a meeting of main political leaders to issue an appeal for peace and form peace committees in major towns. The minister of state, Mr Eduardo Faleiro, met the prime minister in New Delhi today and apprised him of the situation in Goa.

New Cabinet Meets, Reviews Issues 22 Dec
BK221648 Karachi Domestic Service in English
1600 GMT 22 Dec 86

[Text] The new Federal Cabinet held its first meeting in Rawalpindi today under the chairmanship of the prime minister. The meeting reviewed important national issues with particular reference to such areas of public activity where more effective efforts were required and (?improve the performance) of various government departments. Special consideration was given to the measures to be taken to promote a sense of security among the people and security of life and property of the citizens.

The prime minister emphasized that their induction in the cabinet placed upon them a great responsibility and every member of the cabinet will have to work very hard to solve the problems of the people especially those highlighted by the elected representatives and members of Parliament. He advised his colleagues to maintain effective contact of the people and the elected represen-

tatives with a view to solving their problems and executing the development programs expeditiously.

The members of the Cabinet assured the prime minister of their resolve to dedicate themselves to the national goal, ideology of Pakistan, and amelioration of the lot of the common man. The meeting began with the recitation from the Holy Koran by the Interior Minister Mr Mohammad Aslam Khan Khattak.

Karachi Press Note Says Situation 'Peaceful'
BK221650 Karachi Domestic Service in English
1600 GMT 22 Dec 86

[Text] A press note issued in Karachi tonight says the situation remained peaceful today and no untoward incident took place anywhere in the city.

SRI LANKA

Minister on Political Solution to Ethnic Issue
BK221324 Colombo International Service in English
 1045 GMT 22 Dec 86

[Text] It is easy to solve problems through the use of might but it is not a popular method to adopt, says the national security minister, Lalith Athulathmudali. He also said the political solution should be sought to the ethnic problem which is plaguing the country. The minister said the world had faced [as heard] the latest proposals put forward by the president seeking a permanent solution.

The national security minister, Lalith Athulathmudali, was speaking at a meeting largely attended by the youths of the area. Answering a question by a participant, Mr Athulathmudali said the release of the two soldiers by the terrorists showed that a meaningful dialogue had been established between the Armed Forces in Jaffna and the LTTE [Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam] and he said he was hopeful that it can lead to further measures to resolve the conflict.

Clandestine Radio on Talks With Indian Officials
BK211012 (Clandestine) Voice of Tamil Eelam
 in Tamil 1326 GMT 19 Dec 86

[Text] Reports say that the Sri Lanka and Indian leaders had second round of extensive talks on the problem of the Tamil Eelam people in Colombo yesterday evening. It is understood that the talks figure on the formation of the provincial councils, the concerned areas of jurisdiction, and the provincial council elections. At the talks the Indian side was represented by the Ministers of State P. Chidambaram and Natwar Singh, and a legal expert Balakrishnan; and the Sri Lankan side was represented by Jayewardene, who led the delegation, Gamini Disanayake, Lalith Athulathmudali, and A.C.S. Hameed. Sri Lankan Election Commissioner Chandrananda de Silva and the author of *History of Sri Lanka*, Kingsley de Silva, were also invited by Jayewardene for providing explanations on provincial councils and allied matters. The book *History of Sri Lanka* by Kingsley de Silva was written keeping in mind the welfare of the majority Sinhalese community and projecting the Eastern Province as the ancestral land of the Sinhalese people. In his book, he has produced evidence for the traditional inhabitation of the Sinhalese people in the Eastern Province. The Sinhalese village, Cheruvila, which is on the border of Tamil Eelam was also reviewed. The freedom fighters organizations have already informed Chidambaram that even after 1948, there were ade

quate number of political representatives of the Tamils from the east. In spite of this, the Indian side also evinced interest in reviewing history. Therefore, the Communist Party of Tamil Eelam says that yesterday's talks were not in conformity with the practical approach and will not be useful under the emergency situation now. They all talk about history only. We are for the current situation.

Talks Followed 'Expected Pattern'
BK211452 (Clandestine) Voice of Tamil Eelam
 in Tamil 1328 GMT 20 Dec 86

[Text] Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi's special envoys, the Ministers of State P. Chidambaram and Natwar Singh, have returned to New Delhi after concluding their talks in Colombo yesterday. Their talks with the Sri Lankan Government held yesterday and the day before were of the expected pattern. Reports also say that their talks with the Sri Lankan Freedom Party leader Srimavo Bandaranaike also did not succeed. Srimavo Bandaranaike said the Indian Government should persuade the Tamil freedom fighters to accept the adequate concessions offered by Jayewardene and that her party will not support the provincial council system as it will split the country [words indistinct]. This has hampered the expectations of the Indian ministers. P. Chidambaram's group has returned to New Delhi with the conclusion that nothing could be constructively done based on this. The reports received by us from New Delhi say that the senior Indian officials will have talks with the leaders of the freedom fighters subsequently and that these talks will be crucial.

Jaffna 'Terrorists' Respond Positively to Truce
BK251117 Colombo International Service in English
 1045 GMT 23 Dec 86

[Excerpt] The terrorists in Jaffna have responded positively to a Christmas truce called by the national security minister, Lalith Athulathmudali yesterday. The minister said the proposed truce was the second phase of a general plan which included the release of two soldiers held captive by LTTE terrorists last week. The minister was speaking at the Christmas mahapola [fair] at the (Ragama) junior school last night. This is the first time that the mahapola is being held within the premises of a church.

Speaking further, the minister said that we must prepare ourselves from now to make 1987 a year of peace. He pointed out that the government has been able to prove that the separatists cannot achieve their goal. [passage omitted]

PRC's Geng Biao Arrives in Tehran 19 Dec
NC200904 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
 0330 GMT 20 Dec 86

[Text] (?The first) PRC National People's Congress delegation led by Vice Chairman of the National People's Congress Standing Committee Geng Biao arrived in Tehran last night. The members of this delegation were welcomed by several deputies from the Islamic Consultative Assembly as well as officials from our Foreign Ministry.

According to a Central News Unit report the PRC delegation will stay in Iran for (?5) days. The same report adds that the vice chairman of the PRC National People's Congress, who is also chairman of the PRC Committee for Foreign Relations, spoke with our correspondent about the reason for his visit to the Islamic Republic of Iran. The PRC official stated: The people of Iran and China have relations which date back 2,000 years. Thanks to efforts by both countries joint relations in political, economic, cultural, and other fields (?have improved) in recent years. (?Visits by officials from both countries), especially the one by Speaker of the Islamic Consultative Assembly Hashemi-Rafsanjani, opened a new chapter in bilateral relations. I hope that during this visit we will be able to exchange common experiences in [words indistinct]

Meets With Hashemi-Rafsanjani
LD201916 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
 1630 GMT 20 Dec 86

[Text] Vice Chairman of the PRC National People's Congress Standing Committee Geng Biao met with Majlis Speaker Hashemi-Rafsanjani this evening. Geng Biao was accompanied by his delegation.

At the meeting Geng Biao pointed to the global policies followed by the United States and the USSR and the objectives sought by the two superpowers. He condemned the expansionist policies of the United States and said: Contrary to the view of the United States that Taiwan is an unsinkable aircraft-carrier, Taiwan is part of the sacred and inseparable soil of the PRC. Pointing out that the USSR and the United States proclaim disarmament slogans but in fact want the arms race, he said: The USSR must leave Afghanistan.

In conclusion, expressing pleasure at the friendly relations between the PRC and the Islamic Republic of Iran, he urged a greater expansion of relations.

Describing the global policies of the PRC as wise, Hashemi-Rafsanjani said: We believe that your country's policies will lead to the restoration of its prominent role in the world and fulfill its principle role in the future. This is only possible by preserving just and friendly relations with the Third World countries and nations and by taking care not to become trapped into dependence on its relations with the expansionist superpowers.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani condemned the expansionist policies of the West and the East, and said: The United States and the USSR have many problems. The USSR is being defeated in

Afghanistan and the United States has become very weak following the rise of the Islamic Revolution in the Middle East. We believe that the Third World countries, by adopting wise policies, will triumph over the colonialist superpowers.

In conclusion, expressing pleasure at the bilateral relations, the speaker of the Islamic Consultative Assembly stressed the need to expand and improve existing relations. He urged further exchanges of political and economic delegations between the two countries.

Confers With Majlis' Yazdi
LD201937 Tehran IRNA in English 1938 GMT 20 Dec 86

[Text] Tehran, Dec 20, IRNA — Visiting Chinese Deputy of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress Geng Biao expressed satisfaction over the developing trend of Tehran-Beijing relations here Saturday.

In a meeting with Majlis (Parliament) Vice-Chairman Hojjat ol-Islam Mohammad Yazdi, Geng briefed him on China's stance vis-a-vis the world powers as well as regional issues. He further called for more exchange of views between the two countries' parliamentarians.

On disarmament, the Chinese deputy said that the two big powers (U.S. and USSR) should be disarmed first in order to achieve global peace.

Hoj Yazdi replied that disarmament negotiations between the two big powers are rather compliments and political formalities and that the two have not yet realized the seriousness of the issue. "The two powers talk about disarmament but simultaneously carry out nuclear tests," he added.

The hojjat ol-islam also expalined Iran's foreign policy and expressed hope that China, as a strong country, would stand by the Third World countries.

Elsewhere, Hojjat ol-Islam Yazdi referred to Iraq's continued violation of international laws and called for the world's condemnation of the Iraqi Ba'thist regime. "Iranian Muslim combatants will continue the war until the eventual victory," Yazdi said.

Geng, heading a parliamentary delegation, arrived here early Friday for a five-day visit.

Meets Majlis Commission Chief
LD211631 Tehran IRNA in English 1610 GMT 21 Dec 86

[Text] Tehran, Dec 21, IRNA — The visiting Deputy of the Standing Committee of China's National People's Congress Geng Biao conferred here Sunday with head of the Majlis Commission for Foreign Affairs, Ahmad 'Azizi. Head of the Chinese parliamentary delegation, Geng, outlining the importance of exchange of views between the two countries' MP's said that People's Republic of China is keen to develop Sino-Iran ties. The Chinese official also explained his country's foreign policies vis-a-vis U.S. and the Soviet Union.

In reply Ahmad 'Azizi welcomed China's suggestion on exchange of parliamentary delegations and the idea of forming a joint parliamentary council. Explaining the principles [of] Iran's 'neither East nor West' foreign policy, 'Azizi reaffirmed Iran's firm determination against resuming relations with the U.S., the Zionist entity, and the apartheid regime of South Africa, either directly or indirectly. Iran's main ideal is to be a model non-aligned country in the real sense of the word, he added. Regretting that the so-called Third World bloc has failed to achieve any real non-alignment, despite its distinct features, 'Azizi remarked that formation of 'a fourth world' may perhaps bring close together all those countries which are confronting the domination of the East and West. It can even unite these countries in achieving their goals, he added.

On [the] Iraqi-imposed war, the Iranian official said it was imposed on the Islamic Republic with the backing of the U.S. and the Soviet Union. The war is a phenomenon which belongs not only to Iran but to all humanity, 'Azizi noted. He stressed that all the world's independent countries should boldly fight against this phenomenon, especially repeated Iraqi violations of all international norms and prevent the Baghdad regime from committing such crimes.

The Chinese parliamentary delegation arrived here on Dec 19.

Received by Velayati

LD211721 Tehran IRNA in English 1712 GMT 21 Dec 86

[Text] Tehran, Dec 21, (IRNA) — Visiting Chinese Deputy of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress Geng Biao met with Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati and discussed issues relevant to Tehran-Beijing relations, here Saturday. The Chinese official told Velayati that Sino-Iranian relations have noticeably expanded over the past few years and added that future prospects are quite bright. Tehran-Beijing ties have always been cordial both in the past and at present and will continue to be so in the future, said Geng. He also lauded the Islamic Republic for its wise economic policies and for being one of those few Third World countries which have virtually no foreign debts. The Chinese official furthermore emphasized that both the Iranian and Chinese nations should make the best use of experiences and share them with each other.

In response, Velayati described both the Islamic Republic and the People's Republic of China as "powerful" countries in Asia and expressed hope that the two countries would enjoy durable relations. Velayati stressed that independence from both the superpowers as essential in order to save the world.

Discusses Relations With Mirzadeh

LD221245 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1030 GMT 22 Dec 86

[Text] Today, during a meeting with the prime minister's Executive Deputy Mirzadeh, Vice Chairman of the Standing Committee of PRC National People's Congress Geng Biao, who is in our country at the head of a high-ranking delegation, called his talks with Iranian officials fruitful. He called for the expansion of

mutual relations, especially in economic fields. He added, the Islamic Republic of Iran and the PRC have laid the foundations of good relations in the commercial and economic fields. I am certain that these relations will expand even further.

During the meeting the prime minister's executive deputy and chairman of the joint economic committee of Iran and China referred to the present friendly relations between the two countries. He praised Iran's [as heard] strong and strategic relations. He said, the existing economic and trade potentials of the two countries necessitate further economic ties between Iran and China. No doubt, the visit by you and your entourage will prepare more suitable grounds for relations between the two great and powerful Asian countries. He added, despite the imposed war and its heavy costs, not only are we implementing several large-scale projects in the various economic-industrial fields, but also, with the assistance of our specialist cadre, we are cooperating with several countries in the economic and technical fields, especially the exploration and extraction of oil. Before the victory of the Islamic Revolution, due to the subservience of the monarchical regime, the smallest job was not possible in our country without foreign experts.

He concluded by stressing the importance of implementing the agreements reached between the two countries and exchanging beneficial experiences of the two revolutionary countries in the economic-industrial fields.

Indian Minister of State Continues Visit

Meets With Musavi 19 Dec

LD192123 Tehran IRNA in English 1025 GMT 19 Dec 86

[Text] Tehran, Dec 19, IRNA — The visiting Indian minister of state for industrial affairs, Arunachalam, in a meeting with Prime Minister Hoseyn Musavi here Friday morning discussed mutual economic issues. During the meeting, which was attended by the Iranian minister of heavy industries, Behzad Nabavi, the Indian official who arrived here Tuesday night briefed the premier on progress of his negotiations with the Iranian officials.

Praising the determination of the Islamic Republic of Iran to achieve industrial self-(?)dependence Arunachalam said that his country will consider this policy of Iran as the axis in its efforts to expand its industrial cooperation with Iran. Arunachalam also expressed willingness of his country for further expansion of mutual relations and assured the prime minister that India will further increase quality of its export items. He further hoped that the two countries will enjoy good cooperation in the February session of the joint economic commission to be held in New Delhi.

Prime Minister Musavi stressed that geographical locations of the two countries required good cooperation between them. The premier also stressed that problems on the way of further expansion of mutual relations should be removed soon so that they could elevate the level of their industrial cooperation.

Ends Visit; Departs

NC200739 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
0430 GMT 20 Dec 86

[Text] According to a Central News Unit report, Indian Minister of State for Industrial Development Mr Arunachalam, who had come to Tehran at the head of a delegation, left this morning. He was seen off by Minister of Heavy Industries Behzad Nabavi.

The same report notes that the Indian minister of state met with various officials during his stay in Iran to discuss bilateral industrial cooperation. He expressed his country's readiness to cooperate with Iran in various fields, particularly in projects dealing with the manufacture of train cars and cement, road construction, and the purchase of Iranian non-oil products.

SAIRI Session Issues Resolution on Iraq's Future

LD191722 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1030 GMT 19 Dec 86

[Text] The Supreme Assembly of the Islamic Revolution of Iraq (SAIRI) ended the third general assembly of its sixth session with the slogan of Islamic unity for the overthrow of the mercenary Iraqi regime.

According to a report from the Central News Unit, over the 3 days of its session the assembly reviewed the present situation of the oppressed people of Iraq and the mounting victorious revolution of that country's Muslim people. The session ended its work by issuing a resolution. The resolution thanks the Islamic Republic of Iran and reviews allegiance to the imam of the nation and his successor and the country's officials, especially the respected president of the Republic. It stresses the weakness of the Iraqi regime with regard to the heroic blows of the mojahedin and the combatant forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran and directs a warning to world arrogance and the reactionary countries of the region. The resolution states: We shall continue to deliver blows to the disintegrating body of the regime ruling over Iraq until our last breath and we shall not rest until this regime has been overthrown.

The resolution warns the big colonial states that are continuing to help the Iraqi regime and emphasizes that our country [Iraq] does not hold itself at all responsible for the present regime's agreements, contracts, and loans. Thanks are expressed to those Arab countries that are trying together with our people to reveal the true identity of the ruling regime and are struggling to cooperate in overthrowing it. A warning has been given to those countries who have not yet refrained from assisting this regime; they have been invited to place themselves alongside the people of Iraq.

The SAIRI resolution states: During this phase when our nation has expanded its operations against the regime in various parts of Iraq, especially in the northern Kurdish populated regions, we call on all the people of Iraq to continue these operations and we invite the soldiers and officers of the Iraqi Armed Forces to be at the side of their own people. We also call on pilots not to place themselves on the black-list which contains

the names of Saddam and his mercenaries and to get themselves out of the ranks of the enemies of Islamic nations.

Also, thanks were expressed to the Islamic Republic of Iran for its fatherly attitude and behavior toward all the Iraqi strugglers and an invitation was extended to them to participate in the conference of solidarity with the Iraqi nation which will be convened at the end of next week in Tehran. The resolution states: While participating in this conference, we shall continue our Islamic plan toward the expansion and escalation of struggle and resistance and uniting the struggle along the path toward the overthrow of Saddam. And we invite all struggling groups who want to serve the oppressed Iraqi people to put all their resources to work toward this end.

The resolution continues: On the eve of the destiny-making offensive of Islam's forces against the mercenary Iraqi regime we draw the attention of all the Iraqi people to observation of the following:

The identification of the 'Aflaqite criminals and the security service forces and the mercenaries of the regime so that they may be punished at the appropriate time for their crimes in accordance with Islamic justice;

The identification of military, political, and economic centers and also centers where the regime lodges its documents and records, so that these may be safeguarded at the suitable time;

The identification of centers that house the advisors and subjects of the governments of arrogance so that they may be taken over at a suitable time;

The identification of centers for the storage of foodstuffs and other vital goods in order to safeguard them at the appropriate time;

From now on we must be prepared to confront possible future economic problems and shortages in the availability of foodstuffs.

We request the heroic tribes of the Tigris and the Euphrates and also the Kurdish inhabited regions to utilize everything in order to deliver the final blow. The Supreme Assembly of the Islamic Revolution of Iraq will give the necessary training, at the right time, to all peoples of the oppressed Iraqi nation.

SAIRI Message Thanks Montazeri

LD211628 Tehran IRNA in English 1615 GMT 21 Dec 86

[Text] Tehran, Dec 21, IRNA — The Iraqi Muslim people allied with the Islamic combatants of Iran are on the brink of victory, despite the massive U.S.-led imperialist aid to the tottering Baghdad regime, said a message from the Supreme Assembly for the Islamic Revolution of Iraq (SAIRI), Sunday. The message addressed to Ayatollah Montazeri, expressed SAIRI's gratitude towards the future spiritual leader of the Islamic Republic for his benign guidance. SAIRI, which held its third general assembly last week, coinciding with the start of its sixth term, had earlier renewed its allegiance to the leader of the Islamic Revolution, Saturday.

SAIRI's third general assembly reviewed the forthcoming conference on 'Iraqi People's Cooperation' to be held in Tehran

December (24-28), which aims at uniting Iraqi opposition groups to accelerate the downfall of the Baghdad regime.

SAIRI Officials Meet Montazeri

LD230907 Tehran IRNA in English 0855 GMT 23 Dec 86

[Text] Tehran, Dec 23, IRNA — A large group, members of the Supreme Assembly of the Islamic Revolution of Iraq (SAIRI) accompanied by [the] president's representative, head of the SAIRI, and members of the headquarters in charge of the forthcoming Conference on Iraqi People's Cooperation, met with Ayatollah Montazeri here Monday.

According to the Iranian radio Ayatollah Montazeri praised attention being paid to the Islamic Movement in Iraq and said that alongside the struggle against the Baghdad regime special attention should be paid to training of judicial, political, military, and cultural staff. In this respect, he added, the Iranian experience could be made use of.

Ayatollah Montazeri pointed out that the issue of the Iraq-imposed war should not be neglected and the Iraqi forces fighting against the Baghdad regime should not forget war fronts.

Majlis Speaker on 'Iraqi People's' Conference

LD211747 Tehran IRNA in English 1619 GMT 21 Dec 86

[Text] Tehran, Dec 21, IRNA — The Conference on Iraqi People's Cooperation to be held here 24-28 December is aimed at determining the future of Iraq according to the will of the Iraqi Muslim people. Speaking at the Majlis session here Sunday, Speaker Hojjat ol-Eslam Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani further called on all Iraqis to inform the conference of their opinions about the future of Iraq and its Constitution, after the eventual downfall of Saddam Husayn.

Hoj. Rafsanjani also called on Majlis deputies and the Iranian people to set forth their reasonable viewpoints on the Iraqi issue in view of the victories of the Muslim combatants. He further expressed hope that all people would actively contribute to the issue. Major Iraqi opposition groups are to gather in the five-day conference in Tehran.

Officials Arrive for Conference

LD220931 Tehran IRNA in English 0844 GMT 22 Dec 86

[Names as received]

[Text] Tehran, Dec 22, IRNA — Over ninety Iraqi dissidents and non-Iraqi personalities have arrived here to take part in the upcoming Conference on Iraqi People's Cooperation, to be held Dec 24-28. The officials, representing groups and parties opposing the Baghdad regime, have come from Syria, Britain, Switzerland, United Arab Emirates, and Lebanon. The Iraqi group includes figures such as Pinent Alim Seyyed Mohammad Bahr-Ul-Olum, head of Iraq's Ummah Party Sa'i/ Saleh, and Sa'id Mehdi Hakim.

Meanwhile Lebanese ulema Sa'id Muhammad Husayn Fadlallah and Shaykh Mohammad Mehdi Shamseddin, Amal Movement leader Husayn Musavi, and one of the Lebanon's Hizbollah leader Shaykh Sobhi Tofeili have already arrived to attend the conference.

Talks With France on Financial Dispute Begin

LD221524 Tehran IRNA in English 1510 GMT 22 Dec 86

[Text] Tehran, Dec 22, IRNA — Visiting French delegation and Iranian officials started their first round of talks on settling the Iran-Paris financial disputes, here Monday. France's Economic and Finance Ministry official Jean Claud Trichet and Iran's Deputy Minister of Economic and Financial Affairs Mehdi Navvab are heading the Iranian and French delegations at the talks.

The talks follow previous meetings held between Iranian and French officials for solving a financial dispute over a dlr one-billion loan granted to France by Iran. However, France's total debts to Iran is estimated at more than dlrs two billion by experts, taking into account the loan's interest. The Paris government has already paid dlrs 330 million to Iran as the first installment.

The French delegation arrived here Sunday night.

Majlis Deputies Condemn Mehdi Hashemi Actions

LD221337 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 22 Dec 86

[Text] In a letter to the imam of the nation [Khomeyni] over 120 Majlis deputies condemned the actions of Mehdi Hashemi and Ahmad Kashani, and they requested the imam to issue guidelines on this matter.

In another letter addressed to the imam, more than 120 Majlis deputies condemned the actions of Mehdi Hashemi and his group and expressed their gratitude to the imam for his decisive action to eliminate the dangers threatening the Islamic community from the eclectics and deviationists. The deputies then announced: The highly meaningful letter by the deputy leader [Montazeri] also raised the hopes of those advocating the complete supremacy of Islamic precepts and the strengthening of the Islamic Republic. The letter also foiled the aims of the eclectics, deviationists, and factionalists. It is hoped that, by observing the categorical orders issued by your eminence [Khomeyni] the Ministry of Information will continue to decisively prosecute the agents and sympathizers of this rumormongering, seditionist group which advocates eclectic thinking and which is divorced from the clerics and Islamic scholars.

'Spies' for Iraqi Regime To Be Executed

LD221802 Tehran IRNA in English 1630 GMT 22 Dec 86

[Text] Zahedan, Sistan-Baluchestan Prov., Dec 22, IRNA — Five persons involved in espionage activities for the Iraqi regime will shortly be executed in this southeastern provincial capital, said local prosecutor Br. Husseinian Monday. The spies were

arrested by Iranian security agents and sentenced to death by the provincial branch of the Islamic Revolution's Tribunal.

Husseinian also said that a group of 12 counterrevolutionaries and bandits had also been arrested in an operation recently launched by Iranian Armed Forces in Korin District of Zahedan. Eight of them have been sentenced to death. The official said that a large amount of weapons and ammunition seized from the band indicates direct links between them and the Iraqi Ba'thist regime and the outlawed Iranian grouplets outside the country. The seized weapons included several Iraqi and Egyptian-made arms, he added. The arrested group also confessed to having killed some Iranian Gendarmes and Islamic Revolution's committeemen, he said.

Velayati Cables ICO, UN on Iraqi Raids

LD221920 Tehran IRNA in English 1800 GMT 22 Dec 86

[Text] Tehran, Dec 22, IRNA — Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati cabled a message to the secretary-general of the Islamic Conference Organization (ICO) Monday calling on him to do all within his power to force the Iraqi regime to discontinue its inhuman raids on Iranian civilians.

The message said the Iraqi raids on Iranian residential areas have resulted in the martyrdom and wounding of numerous Iranian civilians. It said the Iraqi atrocities were clear violation of international law as well as the 1949 Geneva conventions.

Velayati sent a similar message to UN Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar on Sunday.

Iraqi Attacks No Influence on Tehran's 'Fate'

LD221924 Tehran IRNA in English 1605 GMT 22 Dec 86

[Text] Tehran, Dec 22, IRNA — Iraq's stepped-up bombing of Iranian residential areas is because of its inability to attack military and industrial centers of the country, said Prime Minister Hoseyn Musavi here Monday. Speaking to a group of workers and craftsmen of the country's industrial units, Musavi said that enemies of the Islamic Revolution should rest assured that bombardment of Iran's economic-industrial sites as well as its civilian areas will not influence the fate of the Islamic Republic in the least.

The enemies fancy that by attacking the homes and shops, Iranian people will be forced to abandon their support for the Islamic Republic, "but such pressures rather make our people more resistant," he added. The prime minister also lauded activities of the factory workers at this crucial point when numerous plots are being hatched against Iran. "The Islamic Revolution has endowed us the character to rely on our own initiatives and power against these difficulties," Musavi noted.

Elsewhere, the prime minister said that Iranian manpower is confident it can accurately assess and deploy the personnel needed in reconstructing war-stricken areas. He said this ability also contributes to their being the "determining power of the region." Iraq's inability to properly exploit its superior technol-

ogy against Iran should be viewed as a tribute to Iranian Basij volunteer forces, Musavi said.

Reportage on Combat Operations in War With Iraq

Retaliation Against Iraq Detailed

*LD221745 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1630 GMT 22 Dec 86*

[Text][Announcer] A Central News Unit correspondent reports on the retaliatory attacks of the fighters of Islam against economic, industrial, and military targets in Iraq:

[Unidentified correspondent] In retaliation for the aggressive acts of the wretched and desperate regime of Baghdad in attacking the civilian targets of our country, the powerful forces of Islam in Bakhtaran and Ilam last night and today, with the execution of heavy fire against economic and military targets in Khanaqin, Mandali, Zurbatiyah, Sayyid Sadiq, and tens of other military townships, as well as weapons emplacements of the military units of the defeated forces of Iraq, inflicted heavy losses and casualties upon the defeated forces of Saddam.

[Announcer] According to the correspondent's report, quoting an informed military source following the heavy shellings of last night and today, columns of smoke and fire could be seen over all enemy military and economic installations. Since 2200 last night, the movement of enemy ambulances in various areas confirms the view that heavy casualties have been inflicted upon the enemy.

Only 1 day after the dastardly bombing of residential areas in Bakhtaran, while the mourners of this town were burying their blood-drenched martyrs, the blood-thirsty rulers of Baghdad once again brought another part of the West, namely Esfahabad-e Gharb, under their heavy and savage bombing. The bombings, which were carried out in stages this morning and this afternoon, resulted in 43 civilians of the town being martyred and a large number of others wounded. Immediately after these crimes, which added another page to the black and shameful file of the Iraqi Ba'thist party, the mourning but heroic and steadfast people of the town went to the assistance of their martyred compatriots, and with the help of the executive organs in Bakhtaran, mobilized themselves to help the injured.

According to the correspondent's report the last attack took place at a time when the people were busy collecting and transporting their martyrs and the injured. According to the same report, the mercenary Iraqi pilots, while leaving the skies of the region, bombed Barfabad village, which caused a number of losses and casualties.

Shelling of Iraqi Cities Suspended

LD230642 Tehran IRNA in English 0636 GMT 23 Dec 86

[Text] Bakhtaran, Dec 22, IRNA — The 24 hour shelling of the Iraqi border cities in a 250 kms long border strip from Sayyid Sadiq to Zurbatiyah, stopped at 20:00 hours local time (16:30 hours GMT) Monday. The shelling was in retaliation for the Iraqi

bombardment of cities in the Iranian border provinces of Bakhtaran and Ilam which martyred hundreds of civilians and caused massive damage.

According to military commanders, the Iranian artillery units pounded Iraqi troop concentration centers in Khormal, Sayyid Sadiq, Dar Bandijan, Goureh Ghou, Khanaqin, Mandali, Bardeh, and Zurbatiyah. In a 250 kms long area the Iraqi military and economic centers including Banmil oil pumping station were pounded and smoke of the fire filled the area.

The Iranian shelling has caused heavy damages and casualties to Iraq. The Iraqi forces in retaliation opened fire on the Iranian border cities of Qasr-e Shirin and Sumar, which was immediately silenced by the Iranian forces.

The Iranian shelling was in response to Sunday and Monday Iraqi air raids on two Iranian western cities of Bakhtaran and Eslamabad-e Gharb. The number of casualties and degree of damages inflicted on Iraq was so high that panicked the Iraqi military officials and made the Iraqi military spokesman to deny Iraqi attacks on the Iranian western cities.

Later Report: Shelling To Continue

LD230903 Tehran IRNA in English at 0825 GMT 23 Dec 86

["Shelling of Iraqi Cities Continue" — IRNA headline]

[Text] Tehran, Dec 23, IRNA — The Islamic Republic of Iran will continue its reprisal attacks on Iraqi military, industrial, and economic centers, as long as the Iraqi Ba'thist regime continues its attacks on Iranian cities and martyring civilians.

The War Information Headquarters in a statement Monday had called on the Iraqi people, except for those living in the four holy cities, to evacuate the areas close to the said centers.

The retaliatory 24-hour attacks were scheduled to end at 16:30 hours GMT Monday. However, the Iraqi air raid on western city of Eslamabad-e Gharb in Bakhtaran Province Monday morning which martyred hundred [as received] civilians made Iran prolong the time period and continue its retaliatory attacks until the Iraqi regime has learned a good lesson.

IRNA Bakhtaran correspondent in a dispatch earlier had said that the shelling of the Iraqi cities had stopped at 16:30 hours GMT Monday, which hereby is corrected. The Iranian shelling of the Iraqi cities will be continued as long as the Baghdad regime resorts to beastly actions.

Bakhtaran Hit 23 Dec; 10 Killed

LD231100 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 23 Dec 86

[Text] A Central News Unit correspondent reports from Bakhtaran on today's savage air raid by the Zionist enemy on the residential areas of Bakhtaran:

Weak and unable to withstand the combatants of Islam, Saddam's criminals, at 0855 today, again bombed 12 areas of Bakhtaran, for 12 minutes, with aircraft presented to them by the superpowers. The mercenary enemy, using rockets, cluster and incendiary bombs, and machine gun fire, attacked men, women, and children. By 1130, 10 persons had been martyred and 124 injured in this savage attack. In addition to dozens of houses and shops being wrecked, some damage was inflicted on houses in the town.

Following this savage attack, the resisting and self-sacrificing people of Bakhtaran and relief units rushed to the assistance of the victims, transferring the injured to treatment centers.

Fatalities Raised to 'At Least' 15

LD231054 Tehran IRNA in English 1047 GMT 23 Dec 86

["15 Martyred in Bakhtaran Bombardment"]

[Text] Bakhtaran, Dec 23, IRNA — At least 15 are reported martyred and scores of others injured in Tuesday morning Iraqi bombardments of the western [word indistinct].

In the latest Iraqi attacks several homes were also damaged or destroyed. On Sunday bombardment of Bakhtaran 103 civilians were martyred. Those injured have been transferred to hospitals.

The War Information Headquarters in a statement Monday said that Iran will continue shelling of Iraqi cities with the exception of the four holy cities, as long as Iraq continued to attack Iranian cities and martyr civilians. Hundred [as received] people were also martyred on Monday bombardment of another Bakhtaran Province city, Eslamabad-e Gharb.

Army Sinks 3 Iraqi Frigates

LD230724 Tehran IRNA in English 0720 GMT 23 Dec 86

[Text] Tehran, Dec 23, IRNA — Three Iraqi frigates were hit and sunk by the naval forces of the Iranian Army, Monday morning, said a Joint Staff headquarters statement here Tuesday. The Iranian Navy opened heavy fire on the frigates which intended to enter the Persian Gulf waters through Khawr Abdallah, it added.

Red Cross, UN Experts See Bombed Areas

LD202310 Tehran IRNA in English 1704 GMT 20 Dec 86

[Text] Tehran, Dec 20, IRNA — A delegation from the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) inspected residential areas of Ahvaz and Andimeshk, Khuzestan Prov., Thursday. The areas were bombed recently by Iraqi warplanes.

The ICRC delegation is here to supervise implementation of the Fourth Geneva Convention as well as its pre-announced statement on prohibiting of the Iraqi attacks on civilian areas and Baghdad regime's use of chemical weapons.

A UN team of experts stationed in Tehran also inspected the bombed areas of the said cities on the same day. It will report its findings to the Secretary-General Javier Peres de Cuellar.

IRGC, Kurds Attack Iraqi City

*LD231129 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1030 GMT 23 Dec 86*

[Text] The Islamic Revolution Guards Corps [IRGC] Ramadan Headquarters, the center for irregular operations of the Ground Forces of the Patriotic Union of Iraqi Kurdistan, while carrying out operations, attacked the city of (Sangab) from several axes. During the early hours of the attack on (Sangab), 43 km west of Kirkuk, four enemy bases outside the city were captured. Later, the city was liberated and all enemy bases in it destroyed.

After the city's capture, forces of the Iraqi Ba'thist-Zionist regime, backed by several tanks, armored personnel carriers, other troop-carrying vehicles, and air support of helicopter gunships, moved from the direction of Chamchal highway to recapture the city. However, thanks to intense fire from the forces of the Patriotic Union of Iraqi Kurdistan, the Iraqi troops lost several tanks, a large number of their personnel were killed, and they were forced to retreat. Among the dead was an Iraqi brigadier commander and another officer. In the course of these operations the Patriotic Union forces captured several vehicles, military equipment, and enemy ammunition.

In the course of these operations — during which a unit of the Iraqi Muslim mojahedin affiliated to the Supreme Assembly of

the Islamic Revolution in Iraq [SAIRI], participated — the following successes were gained: 14 Enemy bases outside the city of (Sangab) were captured, the Iraqi Army [juhush] center occupied and the armed mercenaries deployed in the center killed, the Ba'th Party communication center captured, and the economic installations and state departments destroyed.

According to another report from the Ramadan Headquarters the forces of the Patriotic Union of Iraqi Kurdistan, by infiltrating the Iraqi city of Irbil, succeeded in destroying military garrisons, the training base of Iraqi security forces, the communication building, the Al-Sha'bi Army Headquarters, and all government centers of the Ba'thist-Zionist regime of Saddam. Considerable losses and casualties were inflicted on the enemy. It is necessary to mention that these operations were supported by the city's inhabitants.

'Infiltration Operation' Viewed

*LD231156 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1030 GMT 23 Dec 86*

[Text] According to an Islamic Revolution Guards Corps Central Headquarters report Islamic Revolution Guards Corps Ground Forces, in the course of an infiltration operation along the Changuleh axis, last night destroyed two Zionist enemy bases and killed 40 Ba'thist troops. During this operation, bases of the Iraqi Ba'thist-Zionist forces near the (Siarkenarch) bridge were destroyed. The combatants of Islam returned safely to their bases.

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

24 DECEMBER 1986

Iran-Iraq War

Iraqi warplanes hit two large maritime targets off the Iranian coast, set fire to an oil tanker near Emam Hasan and struck the Emam Hasan oil pumping station, according to a communique broadcast by Voice of the Masses radio. Tehran radio reported that Iraqi planes heavily damaged an Iraqi-registered ship, the *Ibn al-Bitar*, near the coast of Iran.

The Iraqi communique also reported that the Air Force attacked military and industrial targets in Bakhtaran and carried out a "devastating raid" on ammunition depots in Shahabad. IRNA announced that at least 60 civilians were killed and 190 wounded in 23 December Iraqi raids on Bakhtaran and that the toll from Sunday's attacks stood at 133 civilians dead. In remarks cited by Tehran radio, Majlis Speaker 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani, who was on an inspection tour of flood-ravaged Bushehr Province, declared that Iraqi raids on Iranian population centers have forced Iran to "retaliate in a similar fashion."

A military spokesman cited by INA stressed that Iraqi raids were restricted to "military areas" and charged that Iran's "false claims" were aimed at justifying its own shelling of residential areas. According to another communique carried by Voice of the Masses radio, 5 civilians were killed and 25 wounded when Iranian warplanes attacked residential areas in Al-Sulaymaniyah Governorate, and 7 civilians were killed and 83 wounded, including 50 children, when an enemy plane attacked an elementary school in Khanaqin. According to communiqués cited by IRNA, Iranian warplanes "heavily pounded" military and economic centers in Diyanah 24 December, and three surface-to-surface missiles caused "heavy losses" at industrial units in Basra 21 December.

Lebanon

Camps War — A Palestinian source in Baghdad expressed "satisfaction" with the Arab League decision to form a committee to mediate an end to the camps war, Sanaa Voice of Palestine radio reported. PLO official Faruq Qaddumi affirmed in a press statement following the Tunis meeting that the PLO is ready to cooperate with the "legitimate Lebanese authority" in defining the Palestinian presence, the radio noted. After a meeting of the Lebanese Chamber of Deputies, Speaker Husayn al-Husayni said that the resolutions adopted by the Arab foreign ministers represent a "flagrant shirking of responsibility," Beirut radio reported. The radio also said that consultations to end the camps

war continue in Damascus where Amal leader Nabih Birri met with Iranian officials and received a message from the Soviet leadership. Palestinian and Amal forces exchanged artillery fire along combat lines in Shatila and Burj al-Barajinah, the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon reported.

UNIFIL Soldier Wounded — A Swedish soldier was seriously wounded when a UNIFIL convoy was caught in cross fire in the Yatar area of southern Lebanon, according to Jerusalem radio.

Egypt

President Husni Mubarak received Jordanian Foreign Minister Tahir al-Masri, MENA reported. President Mubarak also had a 2-hour meeting with Hani al-Hasan, political adviser to Yasir 'Arafat, according to the agency.

Israel

A Foreign Ministry spokesman cited by Jerusalem radio confirmed that, in line with its policy of no negotiations with the PLO, Israel rejected Yasir 'Arafat's proposal on talks conveyed to Shim'on Peres some 6 months ago.

Ira Rapoport was sentenced to 30 months in prison for "general sabotage" and membership in a terrorist organization as well as for involvement in the attack on former Nabulus Mayor Bassam al-Shak'ah, IDF Radio reported.

Maghreb

Bourguiba in France — Tunisian President Habib Bourguiba was received by French President Francois Mitterrand, Tunis radio reported. Bourguiba arrived 21 December on a private visit for dental treatment, the radio disclosed.

Libyan Delegation to Algeria — Algerian Foreign Minister Taleb Ibrahim welcomed Libyan Foreign Secretary Kamil Hasan al-Mansur and his delegation, according to Algiers radio.

DRA

The Presidium of the Revolutionary Council elected PDPA Secretary General Najibullah chairman of a committee to draft a new constitution, Kabul radio announced.

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Najibullah To Chair Drafting of Constitution
LD231833 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari
 1600 GMT 23 Dec 86

[Text] A session of the DRA Revolutionary Council was chaired today by Acting President of the DRA Revolutionary Council and the Presidium of the Revolutionary Council Haji Mohammad Chamkani at the Golkhana Palace. The Presidium of the DRA Revolutionary Council, on the basis of Article 44 of the DRA Basic Principles of the DRA, elected General Secretary of the PDPA Central Committee Comrade Najibas the chairman of the drafting commission of the Constitution.

Najibullah Addresses Army Youth Secretaries
LD232306 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari
 1600 GMT 22 Dec 86

[Speech by General Secretary of the PDPA Central Committee Najib at the second nationwide session of primary organizations of Army youth; date, place not specified — recorded]

[Excerpts] Esteemed comrades, brave youths, on behalf of myself and on behalf of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo and the revolutionary government, allow me to warmly welcome the participants of the second nationwide session of the secretaries of primary organizations of the DYOA of the DRA Army. [passage omitted]

You will be expecting me to tell you about the results of my visit to the Soviet Union, the land of the great Lenin. I would like to say that the results of my meeting with General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee M.S. Gorbachev and with the people of the Soviet Union during our visit to Moscow, Tashkent, and Samarkand, were extraordinarily (?great). Our talks with the Soviet leaders were sincere and friendly, and took place in an atmosphere of unity of opinion and friendship. In assessing the level of relations of friendship between the Soviet Union and the DRA, we had complete unity of opinion. These relations are based on the long term interests of our neighboring countries. These relations have good prospects for the future of our all-round development and growth.

In talks with M.S. Gorbachev, we discussed important questions relating to cooperation between the PDPA and the CPSU and the DRA, and emphasized our mutual effort toward their consolidation.

In our talks, special place was given to our exchange of opinions concerning the present situation in our region and the general international situation. The general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee pointed out the readiness of the Soviet Union toward assisting in the political solution of the situation around Afghanistan and the realization of the program of peace through national reconciliation.

The PDPA Central Committee Politburo highly assessed the visit of our delegation. We could say that we have (?returned) to our country with [word indistinct] and great inspiration. More than ever before we are confident in the correctness of our policy outlined by the 19th and 20th Plenums of the PDPA Central

Committee. We shall further consistently implement this policy. [passage omitted]

Again and again the troops and officers of the DRA have manifested their loyalty to their people. With the fraternal help of the troops and officers of the Soviet Union, they confidently defend the freedom and independence of their homeland. A large number of personnel of the Army and other personnel of the Armed Forces have displayed profound understanding of their patriotic role and have shown examples of heroism and bravery. We could cite many examples of our youths who are heroically fighting along the righteous path of the revolution. In Khost District, Herat Province, Paktia, Nangarhar, Konar, and other places, many such examples exist. [passage omitted]

Under present conditions great tasks lie before the Army youth. The solution of these tasks under the conditions of the increasing threat of war in the world and the danger of nuclear war are of special importance. The situation in the DRA and in the region is not very simple. The undeclared war against our people at the instigation of imperialism headed by the United States, is continuing. International reaction does not agree with the reality of the existence of the free democratic Afghanistan. Therefore the reaction is trying to prevent our development and progress. Under such conditions the party and the state are bound to pay main attention to the questions of the military structure, the consolidation of the DRA Armed Forces, and safeguarding their combat capability. Along with the forces of the Ministry of Internal Affairs and the Ministry of State Security, our Army is successfully exposing the counterrevolutionary intentions of imperialism and reaction of the region and are firmly enjoying creative strategic combat capability. However, the counterrevolution remains as a real force of danger to the revolutionary gains of our people. In order to achieve complete success in these (?fronts) of the April Revolution, all Afghans should work with great force to maintain first of all the reliable and armed defense of their homeland.

All these matters demand our youth to bring maximum pressure on (?themselves) in military tasks and to be ready, ever and always, for struggle against the cunning and tricky enemy. [passage omitted]

The major task of the Army youth organizations comprises those tasks that are before the Army generally. At the present stage your duty is to enhance the readiness of the Army to a level that will make it possible for the Army to carry out independent armed struggle against the armed counterrevolution and thus ensure the reliable defense of your homeland. So far this task has been undertaken very slowly. There are many reasons for this. One of the reasons is hidden in the major shortcomings of the youth organizations' work. I would like to state briefly that the Army youth activists have not yet deeply recognized the characteristics of the problems. They should know that we are tackling the question of the combat capability of the Army in consideration with the present objective conditions in the country. History has left us with very little (?time) for bringing about fundamental transformations in the country. We should move rapidly; however, we should move correctly.

The past has left us a bitter and sinister legacy. The backwardness of the level of economic, social, and cultural growth of the country has forced us to accomplish tasks in a few years while other countries have carried out such tasks over dozens of years. In the course of the years after the April Revolution, many unsolved, urgent matters are remaining before us. The major obstacle in solving these urgent questions is the undeclared war imposed on the people of Afghanistan by imperialism. Our revolutionary party and state have always desired a political solution to the situation around Afghanistan. In this regard we are enjoying the consistent support of the CPSU and the Soviet state. Our policy is completely in accord with the position of the Soviet Union. During my meeting with General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee M.S. Gorbachev and other leaders of the Soviet Union in the course of our official Moscow visit a few days ago, it was made possible for us to once again be reassured in this regard.

Our countries have made great efforts and will continue to do so toward the normalization of relations between the DRA and Pakistan. Such efforts will also be increased in the future. The eighth round of talks between Afghanistan and Pakistan will begin in Geneva at the Foreign Ministry level. Certain optimism — however, unfortunately very little — concerning the improvement of political situation in the region at the [word indistinct] exists. Our enemies tie all matters to the presence of the limited contingents of the Soviet Union in Afghanistan. But this matter depends on mutual relations between our two countries. The fact that all limited contingents of the Soviet Union will return to their home is also hidden from no one. The question is just one of time and [word indistinct]. This will be implemented speedily when the question of the structure of the DRA Army, an army which will be capable of defending the interests of the peoples against danger from internal and external enemies, is solved, and when we are given practical guarantees of non-interference from abroad. In consideration of this question and formula, the attention of the DYO should be further drawn to the matter of armed defense. Because many unsolved questions are left before you comrades, leaving a negative effect on the combat capability and combat readiness of the Army, these considerations are:

1. First, is the question of bringing the forces up to strength. Bringing the number of personnel of units and companies to the specified limit should be considered. This question is being tackled in an unsatisfactory manner. The duty of the party has not been carried out. What can the youth organizations do to solve this question? What should they do? The bringing to strength of the forces by volunteers, and slogans and decisions in this regard have been made, but the unfortunate fact is that a great number of them remain unfulfilled. The time has arrived for taking practical and specific, decisive measures.

2. The high level of combat capability of the units demands the professional expertise of the staff. With the help of the Soviet Union, today our Army has been sufficiently equipped with modern warfare weapons and technology. Combat possibilities, equipment, and war technology can be maximally utilized only when correctly applied. [passage omitted]

The contemporary army not only needs weapons and technology; the enemy also possess weapons and combat technology. Our Army should be superior from the morale viewpoint. Our Army is realizing just aims and thus it should have high morale. It defends the interests of the people. Consistent and goal directed work should be carried out toward the military, patriotic training of the Army. Only through deep study of the tasks and aims of the April Revolution is it possible to enhance the level of morale and train a brave and courageous soldier. The heroic history of the PDPA, its domestic and foreign policy, and its constructive work, should be actively implemented in the consolidation of the DRA Armed Forces. The spirit of self sacrifice in the way of the people and deep hatred of the enemies of the country should be strengthened. The proud traditions of our people in struggle against colonialists and occupationists enjoy gigantic moral wealth. And today the work and struggle of our youths have enriched it further. [passage omitted]

Concerning the problem of training youths with a spirit of internationalism, friendship and unity between the multinational collectives of the Army are the most important aspects of the work of the youth organizations. The world of internationalism creates great fear in our enemies. The rebels are more fearful of this than the fire of guns. Notwithstanding the fact that the enemies distort these truths, however, in no way can they resist in the face of the great force of reality because internationalism is mutual assistance and mutual friendship. In the last analysis, all these are a great source of high combat spirit. Mutual assistance, the feeling of having a powerful arm, a neighbour in battle, gives energy to men in combat.

Great facilities exist for the training of youths with high internationalist spirit, namely the growth and deepening of Afghan-Soviet friendship and the combat cooperation of our soldiers. For the solution of this task, the base should be that the Soviet soldier is the friend and brother of the people and soldiers of our country. The Soviet soldier deserves profound respect and gratitude because of his being away from his homeland and shedding his blood for the success of the aspirations of our revolution and our people. Our people expressed this gratitude and thanks at the time of the withdrawal of the six regiments of the Soviet limited military contingents to their homeland.

It should be remembered that another aspect of internationalist training is the consolidation of friendship between the troops of various nationalities. The collectives of our Army are usually multinational. The representatives of all nationalities exist in them and the pressure of war is equally pressing on all of them, including the Pashtuns, Tajiks, Hazaras, Uzbeks, Baluch, Turkmens, Nurestanis, and others. All of them are the representatives of one common home and one great family of our people. The most important task of the youth organizations is the training of mutual respect, strong friendship, and unification between the soldiers of various nationalities of our country.

Comrades, we know that the realization of all these responsible tasks necessitates the improvement of the party leadership and the youth organizations and the elimination of the present shortcomings. Greater trust should be laid on the democratic youth organizations of Afghanistan. Their initiatives should be supported. And they should be assisted in preventing mistakes of

principle. But most members of the party and responsible officials of the units and companies do not carry out precise work with youths. Some time ago accountability and election meetings were held in the youth organizations. On the whole these meetings went on in an orderly manner. They were indicative of the true democracy and the future enhancement of the role and prestige of the DYOA toward the solution of the combat readiness of the forces. However, why did some commanders and political personnel not take part in the reporting DYOA meetings in their units? This is not a normal or correct situation. The party committees and political organs should put an end to such a situation. Those responsible should be seriously investigated.

Those were the ideas I wanted to put before you, the representatives of the Army youth. We hope during the course of the meeting you will openly and constructively discuss and criticize those important matters disturbing the Army youth. [passage omitted]

Army Youth Session Ends; Resolution Issued

*LD240326 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari
1600 GMT 23 Dec 86*

[Excerpts] The work of the second national session of the secretaries of the primary organizations of the Army's youth ended this morning after issuing a resolution and a message addressed to the members of the DYOA.

The BIA military correspondent reported that Comrade Farid Ahmad Mazdak, a candidate member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the DYOA Central Committee, spoke at this session. His address concerned the activities of the DYOA in strengthening the ranks of the DRA Army for the further enhancement of combat capability of the units and companies. He drew the attention of those taking part in the session to their crucial and formidable duties for the defense of the homeland, people, and revolution, and protection of the borders. This embodies the resolutions of the 20th Plenum of the PDPA Central Committee and the speech of General Secretary of the PDPA Central Committee Comrade Najib, delivered during the first day of work of the session. [passage omitted]

The resolution of the session, which has been presented to all participants, was unanimously approved by those attending. In part, the resolution reads:

We, the participants of the second national session of the secretaries of the primary organizations of the Army's youth, profoundly perceive our responsibilities to the homeland, people, and revolution, and assure the PDPA Central Committee, on behalf of all organizations of the Army's youth, that all young personnel of the Army will discharge their patriotic duty in a heroic manner. We also assure that the Army's youth will struggle for the independence and freedom of our beloved homeland, for the decisive defeat of the counterrevolutionary bands, and for the restoration of peace and security in the historic land of Afghanistan.

The text of the message of the participants of the second national session of the secretaries of the primary organizations of the Army's youth, the DYOA, and all members of the DYOA in the DRA Army, were read. The message in a part says:

We, the participants of the second national session of the secretaries of the primary organizations of the Army's youths, send a message to you. We invite you all, with young hearts, to devote your energy, power, and youthful enthusiasm to the defense of the aspirations of the April Revolution and the independence and freedom of our country.

After reading the resolution of the DRA Revolutionary Council, medals and badges were pinned on those youths of the Army units and companies who displayed heroism and bravery in the accomplishment of their duties in crushing the counterrevolutionary bands. Comrade Farid Ahmad Mazdak and the general head of the Army's Political Affairs Department did the honors. [passage omitted]

At the end of the ceremony, Brigadier General Zabihollah Ziarmal read the concluding statement of the session and reminded that the results of the session should be conveyed to all personnel. He added that practical measures should be taken for the removal of shortcomings and defects by holding sessions of the young activists and primary youth organizations.

The session concluded with the playing of the DRA national anthem. [passage omitted]

Protocol Signed With USSR for Exploring Oil
BK200324 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT
 19 Dec 86

[Text] India and the Soviet Union have signed a protocol providing for cooperation in economic, scientific, and technical fields for the development of oil industry. The areas identified for cooperation include drilling, exploration of hydrocarbons in Cambay and Kaveri basins and West Bengal. The long term protocol, which will be in operation till the end of the century, was signed in New Delhi today. It provides for carrying out seismic surveys in the Himalayan foothills, Cambay, Kaveri, Tripura, and West Bengal.

The protocol was signed by the minister for petroleum and natural gas, Mr Brahm Dutt, and the visiting Soviet minister for oil industry, Mr V.A. Dinkov.

Pakistan Said Not To Support Terrorist Activity
BK231500 Delhi General Overseas Service in English
 1340 GMT 23 Dec 86

[Commentary by Political Commentator S.C. Bhatt]

[Text] Past experience of agreements reached and accords signed which later turned out to be scraps of paper would make many people react cautiously to the latest Indo-Pakistan agreement on terrorism and related problems. Senior civil servants of the two countries met in Lahore, the graceful Pakistani city close to the Indian border, over the weekend. The talks ended on an optimistic note because Pakistan has agreed that it does not and will not provide any support to terrorist activity directed against India.

The talks were held against the backdrop of the mounting evidence of such support from Pakistan to the terrorists in the Punjab State of India, which lies close to Pakistan. From time to time India has furnished this evidence to the authorities in Islamabad. The evidence is in the form of the names of places and persons in Pakistan connected with the training of the terrorists and the details of the arms supplied to them to carry out acts of violence and destruction in India. The confessions of some of these men caught while trying to cross back into India after receiving training in Pakistan camps have also been cited in this connection. At the talks in Lahore, the Indian delegation showed videotapes of the Pakistan-aided terrorist activities. Only recently the police in Punjab have captured a notorious terrorist, Dhanna Singh, who is a member of a five-man high powered committee directing violent actions. He gave vivid details to the interrogators of the training and arming by Pakistan of different terrorist groups. He also told the police how Pakistan was withholding arms to pressurize the terrorist gangs to unite under a single leadership. Reports from the Canadian media speak of some Sikhs from Canada carrying on anti-Indian activities from Pakistani soil and receiving the necessary encouragement from the authorities there. These reports tell us how for 2 years running the group laid its hands on Indian diplomats accompanying Sikh pilgrims to their holy places in Pakistan.

The Indian Government has plenty more of the evidence which it would not like to publish for fear of revealing the sources. In

spite of these developments, India agreed to talk things over with the Pakistani authorities. The Lahore talks seemed to have gone well from that point of view, and for the first time there is an agreement on checking terrorism, especially the one stemming from Pakistani support, against India.

The two countries have also agreed to set up a joint mechanism with solemn and binding obligations on a reciprocal basis against allowing the use of their respective territories for terrorist activities against the other country.

As a leader of the Indian delegation, the Union Home Ministry's permanent secretary, Mr C. G. Somiah, said on return home much would depend on the followup action. In other words, is this agreement going to be different from its predecessors? Will it be really carried out in letter and spirit? If that happens and the terrorists in Punjab are cut off from their sanctuaries and arms supplies in Pakistan, the results will be obvious pretty soon.

The two delegations are naturally concerned with the issue of terrorism primarily, although the Pakistani official media at the outset tried to play down the terrorism part. The talks also dealt with the problems of illegal border crossings, smuggling, and drug trafficking. Recently, in Pakistan's premier city of Karachi, some 200 people were killed in 3 days of group violence. It showed that drugs are being freely sold. They are also being smuggled into India for illegal exports to the advanced countries. On this question too, both countries have agreed to take effective measures.

Breakaway Akali Dal Leader Arrested
BK240303 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT
 24 Dec 86

[Text] In Punjab, the acting president of the breakaway group of the Akali Dal, Mr Surjan Singh Thakedar, was arrested yesterday near Ropar. He has been arrested for apprehension of breach of peace.

Normalcy 'Fast Returning' to South Goa
BK240337 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT
 24 Dec 86

[Text] South Goa is fast returning to normalcy. No untoward incident has been reported since last night. The inspector general of police told our Panaji correspondent this morning that all road blockades have been cleared and government buses will ply as usual.

Violent Incidents Result in 10 Deaths in Tripura
BK230917 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT
 23 Dec 86

[Text] In Tripura, 10 persons were killed last night by TNV [Tripura National Volunteer] extremists at (Malbasa) in Amarapur Subdivision of the South District. The state chief minister, Mr Nripen Chakraborty, told our Agartala correspondent this morning that among the victims were a 4 year-old child and a 70

year-old man. Two state ministers have rushed to the spot. The inspector general of police with additional forces has also gone to (Malbasa).

The speaker of the Tripura legislative assembly had to adjourn the house till 1400 [0830 GMT] today as all the opposition members shouted and raised slogans demanding the resignation of the left-front government. They said the government has failed to protect the lives and property of the people and also did not declare TNV as an unlawful organization.

Earlier, the Congress-I member, Mrs (Maharani Bibhu Devi), and two other independent members served notices of adjournment motion separately for discussion about the killing of 10 people at (Malbasa). When the speaker disallowed the adjournment motion, the opposition members sat on the floor and shouted slogans. The house could not transact any business in the first half.

Strike Called in Protest

**BK240343 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT
24 Dec 86**

[Text] In Tripura, a 24-hour bundh [strike] is being observed today in protest against the killing of 10 persons by TNV extremists at Malbasa on Monday [22 December]. The bundh has been called by the Tripura Pradesh [state] Congress-I and is supported by the Tripura Upajati Jaba Samit. In a press release issued in Agartala, the state government has appealed to the people to maintain peace and to oppose the bundh.

The inspector general of police told our Agartala correspondent this morning that 19 persons have been arrested by the police in connection with the killings. The chief minister, Mr Nripen Chakravorty, told the assembly yesterday that there will be no compromise with the TNV extremists and the government is determined to put down extremist activities in the state.

'Normal Life' Affected

**BK240955 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT
24 Dec 86**

[Text] In Tripura, normal life has been affected by the 24-hour statewide bundh [strike] which began this morning. Most of the

shops and business establishments remained closed. The Tripura Road Transport Corporation buses are not plying because of picketing. The Indian Airlines operated flights normally. The bundh did not affect the proceedings of the state assembly although the entire opposition stayed away. Quoting police sources, our Agartala correspondent reports that attendance in state government offices was partial. No untoward incident has been reported from anywhere in the state. As already reported the bundh has been called by the Tripura Pradesh [State] Congress-I and supported by the Tripura Upajati Yuwa Samiti to protest against Monday's [22 December] killings by TNV extremists at (Malbasa).

Thirty-seven persons belonging to Congress-I, including the leader of the opposition, Mr Sudhir Majumdar, have been taken into custody for picketing. The inspector general of police told our Agartala correspondent this morning that 24 persons have been arrested in connection with Monday's killings. One of the seriously injured persons in the incident died of injuries in an Agartala hospital last night taking the death toll to 11.

'Terrorists', Suspected Pakistani Spy Arrested

**BK231706 Delhi General Overseas Service in English
1330 GMT 23 Dec 86**

[Text] The Border Security Force [BSF] personnel have apprehended two terrorists and a suspected Pakistani spy in Punjab during the past 24 hours. The two terrorists with 12 bore guns and some cartridges were arrested in the Gurdaspur sector while a person suspected to be working for Pakistan intelligence was arrested in Ludhiana District.

Suspected 'Terrorist' Killed in Amritsar

**BK221323 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT
22 Dec 86**

[Text] In Punjab, a suspected terrorist was killed in an exchange of fire with a police party in Kalra sector of Amritsar District last night. A police party on nakabandi [to stop entry in a place] duty was fired upon when it challenged two scooter-borne armed terrorists. One of them was killed when police returned the fire. The other managed to escape. One revolver, ten cartridges, two kilograms of opium, and a scooter were recovered by the police.

Junejo on Karachi Situation, Outside Involvement
BK240830 Karachi Overseas Service in English
 0800 GMT 24 Dec 86

[Text] The prime minister, Mr Mohammad Khan Junejo, has said the situation in Karachi has considerably improved and will become normal shortly as a result of the measures taken by the government in consultation with the representatives of various segments of the society. He was talking to newsmen in Islamabad this morning after presiding over the prize distribution ceremony of the first philatelic exhibition of the Economic Cooperation Organization [ECO] in Islamabad.

Replying to a question, he said the involvement of outside elements cannot be ruled out in situations like the recent disturbances in Karachi. He said two persons who resorted to firing in Karachi were captured by the people and investigations against them are underway.

Asked about the next phase of cabinet expansion, the prime minister said there is no hurry and it will take some time. As far as the provincial governments were concerned, he said, the chief ministers enjoyed the confidence of the assembly members. The provincial assemblies are independent and they are free to take any decision they like according to the provisions of the Constitution.

Earlier, speaking at the prize distribution ceremony of the ECO philatelic exhibition, the prime minister expressed Pakistan's resolve to achieve the aims and objectives of the ECO between Pakistan, Iran, and Turkey. Mr Mohammad Khan Junejo expressed his confidence that the organization would emerge as a stable and effective organ to promote economic cooperation and progress of these countries. The prime minister distributed souvenirs, medals, and trophies among the representatives of the ECO members, various organizations, and individuals who took part in the exhibition.

Curfew To Be Relaxed in Karachi 24 Dec
BK231534 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu
 1500 GMT 23 Dec 86

[Text] The curfew will be relaxed in all curfew-bound areas in Karachi except Orangi and Sohrab Goth from 0500 to 2000 [0000-1500 GMT] tomorrow. The curfew will be relaxed in Orangi and Sohrab Goth from 0700-1100 and from 1400-1700 tomorrow.

Economic Commission With PRC Begins 23 Dec
BK231006 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu
 0600 GMT 23 Dec 86

[Text] Leader of the Chinese economic delegation Lu Xuejian called on Finance Minister Mohammad Yasin Khan Watto in Islamabad this morning. Later, the Pakistan-PRC joint economic commission session began in which the Pakistani finance minister and the deputy minister for the Chinese foreign economic relations and trade are leading their respective delegations.

The Radio Pakistan correspondent says the Pakistan-PRC joint committee will review trade and economic relations and the progress made after the last meeting. Various working committees will be set up at the meeting which will make recommendations for further improving the economic and trade relations between the two countries.

Agreement Reached To Increase Trade
BK231724 Karachi Domestic Service in English
 1600 GMT 23 Dec 86

[Text] China is to import 10,000 tons of cotton from Pakistan. This was stated by the leader of the Chinese delegation, Mr Lu Xuejian at the third session of the Pak-China joint committee for economic, trade, scientific, and technical cooperation which began its meeting in Islamabad today. He commended Pakistan's performance in the economic sector and assured that his country would go ahead in expanding the area of cooperation between the two countries. He said efforts will be made to improve trade relations between the two countries with particular stress on enhancing imports from Pakistan by China so that trade imbalance between the two countries could be removed.

In his address the federal finance minister, Mr Mohammad Yasin Khan Watto, who led the Pakistan side, thanked the people and Government of China for the valuable economic assistance provided to Pakistan over the past (72) years. He suggested further increase in the quantum of trade between the two countries. He said special stress should be laid on enhancing imports of Pakistani goods into China to remove the imbalance in their 2-way trade. The federal minister briefed the Chinese delegation about the performance of Pakistan's economy which he said have shown the resilience and dynamism.

The Chinese vice minister of foreign economic relations and trade called on President Mohammad Ziaul Haq in Islamabad today. He discussed with the president matters relating to economic cooperation between the two countries.

Talks Termed 'Constructive'
BK240530 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu
 0200 GMT 24 Dec 86

[Text] Chinese Vice Minister for Foreign Economic Relations Lu Xuejian has said that China and Pakistan are satisfied with the progress in their economic cooperation. He was addressing a dinner in Islamabad which was hosted in honor of the PRC economic delegation last night. The PRC vice minister said that the Government and people of China want to further develop the friendly relations with Pakistan. He described the current third session of Pakistan-China joint economic committee as constructive, adding that they have exchanged views at the session in a spirit of friendship and mutual understanding on economic cooperation and trade between the two countries.

Earlier, Federal Minister for Finance and Economic Affairs Mian Mohammad Yasin Khan Watto said that the friendly relations between the two countries have further strengthened as a result of cooperation in political, economic, scientific, technical,

and cultural fields. He appreciated PRC help for Pakistan's economic progress and expressed the confidence that China will help in achieving Pakistan's Sixth 5-Year Plan targets and Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo's 5-point socioeconomic program.

Khomeyni Denies Amnesty Committee Dissolved*LD231139 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian**1030 GMT 23 Dec 86*

[Text] According to a Central News Unit report, in a decree issued to the members of the amnesty committee (Hey'at-e 'Afv), Imam Khomeyni termed incorrect the comments made by a number of officials concerning the dissolution of that committee. He said that such a dissolution has not taken place. In the decree, the imam of the nation stressed: I recommend that the judiciary willingly assist you all over the country. As before, you must continue your work with care and precision. You should know that you have my support.

The text of the imam's decree to the amnesty committee is as follows:

In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful, Your excellencies, hojjat ol-islams, members of the amnesty committee, God's blessings be upon you. According to reports received, some officials have written certain untrue things about the dissolution of the amnesty committee — which is respected and trusted by yours truly. Such a dissolution has not taken place. Your excellencies should note that such issues, which may hurt our feelings, must not dishearten us, for you work for God and he is satisfied with you.

I recommend that the judiciary willingly assist you all over the country. As before, you must continue your work with care and precision. You should know that you have my support.

May God give us success in the service of Islam and Muslims. Peace and God's blessings be upon you.

[Signed] Ruhollah Musavi Khomeyni, 23 December 1986

Majlis Speaker on Retaliation 'Without Limits'*LD232054 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian**1630 GMT 23 Dec 86*

[Text] Our correspondent has sent us the following dispatch on the visit to the flood-stricken regions in Bushehr Province by Speaker of the Islamic Consultative Assembly Hashemi-Rafsanjani:

[Unidentified correspondent] The imam's representative to the Supreme Defense Council Hashemi-Rafsanjani, together with the commanders of the Navy and Air Force, arrived in Bushehr where he was welcomed by Hojjat ol-Islam Madani, the imam's representative and Friday imam of Bushehr; Sufi, governor-general; clergymen and military and law and order commanders and director generals and heads of departments at midday today.

On his arrival in an interview given to a Central News Unit correspondent he described the purpose of his visit to Bushehr Province as an inspection of the flood-stricken areas and meeting the military and law and order forces stationed in the area.

In connection with the wicked deeds of Saddam's 'Aflaqite [reference to the founder of the Ba'th Party, Michel 'Aflaq]

regime in raiding our country's population centers and the Islamic Republic of Iran's decision in that regard, Rafsanjani said: We have been forced to retaliate in similar fashion and unfortunately we had to instruct them to continue retaliation without limits. However, we should mainly respond in a radical fashion to Saddam and we should thereby solve Saddam's problem. It is obvious that so long as he stays these problems will exist for our people and for the Iraqi people. And, thanks to the conference of Iraqi dissidents which we have convened — and maybe one of the reasons for these wicked deeds is to overshadow the reports of this conference — Allah willing, the participants here will clarify Iraq's future tasks and we, too, will bring the war to an auspicious conclusion in accordance with the plan being drawn up.

The imam's representative to the Supreme Defense Council, in connection with the people's role in helping the flood victims, said: The most important task for the people is to render assistance, for the government has limited capabilities, but the people themselves and those in the area have capabilities to use to pass through this stage so that the government could have a chance to radically solve the people's problems.

In conclusion, addressing the people of Bushehr in connection with his message about the flood said: My message is the selfsame message of resistance, particularly in these recent incidents and I have come along to express solidarity with the flood victims.

The Central News Unit, Bushehr.

Terms Enemies 'Humiliated'*LD240841 Tehran IRNA in English 0838 GMT 24 Dec 86*

[Text] Bushehr, Bushehr Prov., Dec 24, IRNA — Majlis Speaker Hojjat ol-Islam Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani said here Tuesday night that the Muslim combatants of Iran are determined to remain in the war fronts until they have attained their objectives.

Hojjat ol-Islam Rafsanjani who was here to inspect the flood stricken areas, also told a large group of people that the Islamic forces' retaliatory attacks were aimed of preventing the Baghdad regime from committing further crimes. However, he stressed, "our main task is to uproot the filthy Iraqi Ba'th Party from the region." The imam's representative to the Supreme Defence Council (SDC), also said that Islam is bound to be victorious and the Iraqi regime will fall.

He said the enemies of the Islamic Republic had become humiliated. "The infidels are now begging us but we will do what is in our interest. The Iranian people have taken their destiny into their own hands and no one can dictate to them what to do."

Meanwhile, in an address upon arrival at Bushehr air base Tuesday, he said that in light of renewed Iraqi attacks on Iranian cities which have martyred hundreds of civilians, Iran will continue reprisals strikes. He added that as long as Saddam exists, problems for the Iranian and Iraqi nations will remain.

On the Conference on Iraqi People's Cooperation, which opened in Tehran Wednesday morning, he said that the Iraqi militant Muslims will decide [the] future of their country. The holding of the conference, he added, may have triggered Iraq's renewed perpetrators of acts of mischief. He hoped that the conference would have a serious effect on the fate of the war.

In another development Hojjat ol-Eslam Rafsanjani attended a city council meeting in Bushehr at the governor general's office, Tuesday night. At the meeting Rafsanjani stressed the need for further promotion of cooperatives in the province.

Majlis Speaker's Son 'Fled' to Canada

*LD232055 Montreal International Service In English
2000 GMT 23 Dec 86*

[Text] There has been an indication that the son of an important Iranian politician may indeed be in Canada. The Canadian Embassy in Brussels says that it granted a visa to a son of Hashemi-Rafsanjani in July of last year. [as heard]

During the weekend the British newspaper *The Observer* reported that the speaker's eldest son had fled from Belgium to Canada. The newspaper said he has \$6 million in profits from the U.S. arms sales to Iran and it said he had gone to Canada to escape an investigation by the Iranian Government.

The name given by the Canadian Embassy in Brussels is not the same as that published in the British newspaper but the man's age is the same. The newspaper speculated that the report of the Iranian parliamentary speaker's son's presence in Canada could be linked to power struggles within Iran's Government.

Kharrazi on War, U.S. Arms Deal, Issues

LD211856 Tehran IRNA in English 1710 GMT 21 Dec 86

[Text] Tehran, Dec 21, IRNA — Head of Iran's War Information Headquarters (WIH) Kamal Kharrazi said here Sunday that the Islamic Republic will inflict a final blow upon the Iraqi Government anytime the situation is politically ripe in the region. He said Iran's decisive move in the conflict would need a supportive political atmosphere which he said is already shaping up in the region and elsewhere throughout the world.

Kharrazi who was talking at a press conference here said once Baghdad's foreign supporters should discontinue their support for it, and once the world should admit that the ruling regime in Baghdad should be done away with, the situation then would be ripe for the Islamic Republic to bring the war to a successful end.

The WIH head said the internal situation in Iraq is fast developing for a change of political system in that country. Kharrazi said all opposition groups and especially Muslim revolutionaries in Iraq are struggling against the ruling government in that country, and that the future political system in Iraq will be naturally mapped out by Iraqi militant groups and not by the Islamic Republic.

Kharrazi indicated, however, that the Islamic Republic has not been fighting in a way for expansionist ambitions and that Iran does not have an eye on even an inch of Iraq's territory. He said any form of a future government in Iraq allowing for the administration of the state affairs by Muslims in that country would be acceptable to the Islamic Republic.

Elsewhere at his meeting with the press the head of the war Information Headquarters criticized Washington for falling in the very trap which it had laid for the Islamic government. Referring to the uninvited visit to Tehran by McFarlane and the fiasco of Washington's clandestine but abortive efforts for resuming relations with Iran, Kharrazi said Washington opted to curry favor from Iran only after the entirety of its plots against the Islamic Revolution had failed.

Kharrazi blasted the United States for pursuing a policy of the stick and the carrot with Iran since the triumph of the Islamic Revolution saying that the United States had opted to somehow reverse its policies in relation with Iran because its hostility with the Islamic Republic had only backfired upon Washington itself.

Asked to comment on the rumoured channeling of the cost of U.S. weapons to the contras in Nicaragua, Kharrazi said the rumour was deliberately published by the Americans with the idea of angering the Soviets and making them think twice on their decision to improve relations with Iran.

The WIH head said in order to establish relations with the Islamic Government, Washington even stooped low and smuggled weapons, for which act it has to answer to the American people. Kharrazi said, however, that the Islamic Republic has never had any problems in procuring weapons or identifying sources. He said the Islamic government can procure weapons from whatsoever source, and can get its needed military hardware "even from [the] Pentagon."

Commenting also on a scheduled conference in Tehran by Iraqi Muslim activists (Dec 24-28) Kharrazi said the conference will aim mainly at devising the form of the future government in Iraq and that it will also review the ways and means for pooling the efforts of all sectors of dissidents and political activists in Iraq.

Kharrazi said seven years after the triumph of the Islamic Revolution in Iran and as a result of the defeat of all subversive plots against the political system in Iran the world and especially the big powers are only now beginning to recognize Iran as the most powerful country in the region and so try to establish relations with a government which until recently they wanted to stamp out.

Asked also to comment on the 80th OPEC assembly in Geneva last week, Kharrazi said that in the course of the assembly "Iraq showed its teeth to everybody and even to its own supporters at the meeting, but eventually we (Iran) turned out the winner, and Iraq became isolated."

Further Reportage on Visit by French Official

Talks Held on Nuclear Generators

LD232211 Tehran IRNA in English 1730 GMT 23 Dec 86

[Text] Tehran, Dec 23, IRNA — Visiting French Finance Ministry official Jean Claude Trichet discussed issues concerning the French company Eurodif with head of the Iran's Atomic Energy Organisation (AEO) Reza Amrollahi here Tuesday. During the meeting the two sides also held talks on a French firm which was to build nuclear power generators in Iran. The firm has nothing to do with Tehran-Paris one billion dollar loan dispute.

The contractor was scheduled to build two nuclear power generators at the Karoun River but it abandoned the project after the victory of the Islamic Revolution in 1979.

Trichet heading a delegation arrived here Sunday night for talks on settling the Irano-French financial disputes.

Velayati Receives Official

LD232213 Tehran IRNA in English 1805 GMT 23 Dec 86

[Text] Tehran, Dec 23, IRNA — Visiting French Economic and Finance Ministry official Jean Claude Trichet conferred with Foreign Minister 'Ali-Akbar Velayati, here Tuesday afternoon. Trichet who is heading a French delegation gave Velayati a verbal message from the Paris government. He also briefed him on the progress of talks between the two countries' officials on finance and economic issues concerning them.

Velayati expressed hope at the meeting that the process of normalization of mutual relations would continue to improve in the interest of the two nations.

The talks are aimed at following up previous meetings held between Iranian and French authorities on resolving a dlr one-billion loan granted to France by Iran.

The French delegation arrived here Sunday night.

Oil Minister Explains OPEC Session; Prices

LD201850 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1630 GMT 20 Dec 86

[Text] Oil Minister Aqazadeh returned home this evening after attending the 80th conference of OPEC oil ministers in Geneva. We now draw your attention to his remarks about the outcome of the OPEC session

[Begin recording][Unidentified questioner] Would you please tell us about the outcome of the session concerning oil prices and oil production?

[Aqazadeh] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. Thanks be to God, after 12 days of hard work we managed to achieve some positive and effective objectives, the most important of which is a minimum price of \$18 for oil. I will explain the basis of the agreement we signed.

To start with, emphasis was placed in the session on stable prices. All 13 member countries have been told how much they must sell their oil for. This means that there will no longer be a price war, as [word indistinct] announced by OPEC. Consequently, oil prices will be restored to their former level. [words indistinct] Consequently, the production ceiling will be reduced to 15.8 million barrels. In this connection, quotas have been established for all the 13 countries.

As for the nature of the quota, in accordance with the base set for all 13 countries — which will later be made available to the press — Iraq's quota will be 1.2 million barrels. Furthermore, the present 16.239 million barrels have been reduced to 15.8 million barrels. Apart from this, temporary quotas have also been set for various countries for next year. Our quota will, therefore, be 2.255 million barrels and Iraq's temporary quota is to be 1.466 million barrels, of which about 300,000 barrels will be reduced temporarily from the quotas of the member countries other than Iran and loaned to Iraq.

Among other positive points included in the agreement is the stipulation that if we fail to achieve higher prices in the third quarter, then we will reduce our production still further. This was included as a clause in the agreement. The agreement also stresses that within 1 month all [word indistinct] contacts or discounts should be abrogated; that all member countries should observe the prices set for each country. A committee is to be set up in Vienna to monitor the countries' exports. The committee will also be informed of the registered names of the ships used.

Then there is another clause saying that these quotas are temporary; that they do not constitute a basis for the future official quotas of the member countries, unless permanent quotas are established. The agreement also stipulates that the committee will control prices [words indistinct]

We believe that we shall soon reach even higher prices; there is a possibility that in the coming year we might achieve prices higher than \$18, considering that, despite the fact that markets are closed today in Europe, OPEC's decision has left its mark: North Sea prices are over \$17. As for our own region, the Persian Gulf, prices are around \$16. Therefore, there is hope that we might achieve the minimum price within 1 month.

In the meantime, it should be remembered that Iraq refused to sign the agreement concerning the quota set for it; it responded in a similar manner to the fixed prices set for it. In the last session, simply to end the crisis, it was agreed to exclude Iraq for 2 months. However, in the present session Iraq refused to accept the decision on official quotas. In view of the attempts to be made by Saudi Arabia, we hope that within 1 month — the legal grace period set for the signing of the agreement — Iraq will comply with it. Otherwise, Saudi Arabia itself will see to it that Iraq adheres to the agreement. It goes without saying that if the attempt fails, then, in an extraordinary meeting, we shall request Iraq's suspension as an OPEC member. Of course, we raised this issue in no uncertain terms at the session, but since there is a 1 month grace period, we have hopes of seeing Iraq complying with it. Otherwise, we shall seriously try to expel Iraq as an OPEC member.

Iraq is facing a bad situation in the world as well as in the session. The situation is such that during our final meeting last night, which ended in the morning, Iraq had to leave the session because of the serious approaches made by other oil ministers. Therefore, Iraq's situation is not at all satisfactory.[end recording]

KEYHAN Comments on Relations With Sudan
PM231505 Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 16 Dec p 18

[Editorial by Yusef Gharavi: "Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi and the Necessity of Reviewing Sudan's Foreign Policy"]

[Text] According to news and information, elected Sudanese Prime Minister Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi is expected to visit Iran to hold talks about various matters of mutual interest with high-level officials of the Islamic Republic. There is no doubt that this visit is important because it is the first trip by a high-level political delegation of that country to Iran since the success of the Islamic Revolution.

In reality, there is plenty to discuss between the two sides, considering the situation in the region and world events, which all somehow affect relations between Iran and Sudan. We must also consider the hostile position of the Numayri military regime vis-a-vis the Islamic Revolution, which we will discuss later.

On the other hand, the visit to Iran by the prime minister of Africa's largest country shows Iran's diplomatic status on the African Continent. Because of regional conditions, fundamental changes have occurred in the positions taken by some Arab and African nations. The latter may have come under pressure from reactionary Arab monarchies and local and international supporters of Saddam and so face problems because they wish to have balanced and neutral relations with Islamic Iran. This trip by the Sudanese prime minister will help considerably in this regard.

In reality, under the Numayri dictatorship Sudan was one of the few countries in the Middle East that started to plot right from the beginning of the Islamic Revolution alongside the two Western and Eastern blocs and their regional lackeys and took part in all sorts of counterrevolutionary plans to stop the spread of Islamic ideology in Sudan.

From another viewpoint we can take a hurried look at the now-defunct Numayri regime's close relations with Iraq and the Saddam regime. The aim was to prevent an Iranian victory and to stop the spread of the Islamic Republic's ideological influence within Islamic circles in neighboring countries.

The Al-Mahdi coalition government's adoption of a neutral policy toward the issue of Iraq's imposed war against Iran is to be considered a major achievement. But the Sudanese prime minister's visit to Tehran is also a good opportunity to tell him the full truth and show him documents concerning the Iraqi aggression and the apparent chain of plots by the various enemies of the revolution. We must tell him about the nation's and the warriors' 7-year resistance in the face of attempts by world aggression to secure major changes in Sudan's foreign policy with regard to the Islamic Republic.

It must also be added that the Muslim Sudanese masses found out many truths about the Islamic Revolution, especially after the 15 May 1985 revolt which toppled the Numayri regime and brought a coalition government to power. During the Numayri regime there was a serious effort to stop the spread of such truths. This is why, today, the people of Sudan and the political circles in that country seriously condemn the one-sided policies of Numayri in his support for Iraq in its aggression against Iran. They condemn the deployment of Sudanese soldiers in the war — which, according to Islamic circles in Sudan, was done secretly and forcefully.

In any case, the talks at the conference table will focus on international issues, the issues of the African Continent, and the Middle East crisis — especially Lebanon, the Persian Gulf war, and bilateral relations. But it is expected that the talks will center mostly on political, military, and economic problems faced by Sudan, especially now that the southern Sudanese separatist rebels are putting increasing pressure on the central government, relying on arms delivered by some neighboring nations such as Ethiopia.

Concerning this issue, it must be said that threats by the southern rebels against Sudan's oil-rich areas caused U.S. and Italian companies to leave this area, disrupting oil production. This means that the Sudanese Government is facing enormous financial difficulties because it was relying on its minimal oil exports as its second-most important source of revenue after cotton in order to pay back its staggering foreign loans to the World Bank and various countries.

In addition to all this, Sudan's economy has deteriorated considerably with the spread of drought and famine, as compared to the flourishing of its agriculture in the last decade. This is especially true when the country's farming depends totally on gifts from the sky in the western areas — which puts the sector in danger and under unexpected threats. In the midst of all this Sudan is taking care of millions of tent refugees from Ethiopia and Somalia who have been forced to leave their own countries because of civil war and pressures exerted on them by their local regimes. Sudan does not have the financial resources to house these refugees who are worsening the famine situation. This is a major problem for the Sudanese.

The political situation and the formation of the parties that make up the present coalition government are also worthy of note. The local Ba'th Party supporting Iraq uses large political and propaganda facilities, backed by influential Egyptian and Iraqi circles, to sully the image of the Islamic Revolution among the Muslim masses. They have even sent some representatives to the local parliament. The Islamic parties, especially those which are called fundamentalist, are facing more pressure from the secularist parties remaining from the Numayri days. In this regard we must keep in mind the trip to Iraq last October by the head of Sudan's Leadership Council — equivalent to a president — which was accompanied perhaps under pressure of the circles mentioned in order to establish excellent relations between the two countries.

However, what is important at this stage is the unsparing aid given to Sudan by the Islamic Republic to help that country with its enormous problems. In this regard we must recall the Iranian

petroleum experts and engineers who are now working in the dangerous areas of southern Sudan, replacing the foreign companies in charge of oil exploration and training Sudanese personnel.

In addition to this, Iran's material and financial aid to the famine victims in Sudan has lifted a huge load from the Sudanese Government's shoulders.

Without a doubt, strengthening political and economic relations with a country like Sudan, which has just emerged from the clutches of the Numayri dictatorship, is in the general direction of the Islamic Revolution's goals.

There are many grounds for further cooperation and expansion of relations, but what is important is the outcome of Al-Mahdi's trip to Tehran, because of his country's position with regard to the imposed war. Strengthening its relations with Islamic Iran and coordination in bilateral views with regard to regional and international issues must, without a doubt, create some basic changes in Sudan's foreign policy. Although we must wait for the future and see the results of events, the realization of the abovementioned conditions promise expanded relations and strengthened ties in the future, following the Al-Mahdi trip.

FRG Envoy Apologizes for Frankfurt Incident
NC240644 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
0430 GMT 24 Dec 86

[Text] The Central News Unit reports that the FRG ambassador met yesterday with our Foreign Ministry's director general for political affairs in the Americas and European countries. During this meeting the FRG ambassador stated that according to international law his government is responsible for safeguarding the security of the Islamic Republic of Iran's delegations in the FRG. He said that necessary instructions have been given to competent officials, and it is hoped that a recent incident will not be repeated.

Referring to the recent attack on the Islamic Republic's consulate in Frankfurt, the FRG ambassador noted the statement by the FRG's deputy foreign minister for political affairs, in which an official apology was extended for the behavior of the Frankfurt police. The envoy said he had been charged by his government with repeating this apology, asking the Islamic Republic's officials not to let such incidents affect bilateral relations and expressing hope that these relations can grow.

UN Envoy Caught in Iraqi Bombing Raids
LD231851 Tehran IRNA in English 1745 GMT 23 Dec 86

[Text] Bakhtaran, Dec 23, IRNA — Iraqi aircraft twice raided this western border city as head of the UN fact-finding team Lieutenant Colonel Muller Fimbeck was inspecting residential sites bombed earlier by Iraqi planes Sunday and Tuesday. The UN envoy and his accompanying delegation were hastily transferred to a safe shelter during the renewed enemy air raids on the city which could be interpreted as self-confessions of the

Baghdad regime to its inhuman crimes. The intruding aircraft dropped cluster and incendiary bombs.

During his visit, a local Iranian official showed Fimbeck a list which included the names of 133 martyrs of Sunday's Iraqi bombing of the city. The UN envoy who narrowly escaped the Iraqi air raid, also visited a school bombed by Iraqi warplanes on Sunday where he took photographs of blood stains of martyred and wounded students as well as sites hit by enemy cluster bombs.

Colonel Fimbeck inspected residential areas bombed at 05:25 hours GMT Tuesday where he was informed that 23 innocent women and men were martyred and 40 houses destroyed. He also visited some local hospitals where he met people wounded in the Iraqi raids.

Reportage on Combat Operations in War With Iraq

Iraqi Economic Centers Bombed
LD240756 Tehran IRNA in English 0752 GMT 24 Dec 86

[Text] Tehran, Dec 24, IRNA — The Iranian Air Force fighter-bombers bombed military and economic centers of the city of Diyanah, in northern Iraq Wednesday morning, said a Joint Staff command communique. The air raid was carried out at 04:37 hours GMT during which these centers were heavily pounded. The Iranian Air Force pilots returned to base safely after successfully carrying out mission.

Iraqi Aircraft Attack Iraqi Ship
LD241149 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1030 GMT 24 Dec 86

[Text] The ship *Ibn Al Beltar* was attacked by intruding Iraqi aircraft yesterday near the Iranian coast. According to an IRNA report, on 24 November 1985 this ship, which was carrying goods of use to the war capability of the Iraqi regime, was seized by the Iranian Navy and was conducted to one of the southern ports of our country.

In the course of yesterday's attack, heavy damage was inflicted on the *Ibn Al Beltar* — which is registered in Iraq, sailing under the cover of the United Arab Shipping Company.

IRGC, Kurdish Operations Viewed
LD241146 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1030 GMT 24 Dec 86

[Text] The central headquarters of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps [IRGC] announced the Zionist enemy launched an attack in order to recapture the (Babaukkah), (Qashaqar), and (Uzman) Heights in the Dahuk Province of Iraq which are occupied by the forces of the Iraqi Kurdish Democratic Party [KDP] and forces of the Ramadan headquarters, the center for irregular operations of IRGC Ground Forces.

Following this attack, backed by the Zionist enemy's helicopters, tanks, and artillery fire, the forces of the Iraqi KDP and Rama-

dan combatants, during an intense clash with the enemy forces, crushed and warded off their attack, and the Zionist enemy was forced to retreat after suffering heavy losses and casualties.

During these operations, only along the two axes of (Darrah Kaki) and (Dim), in the northern regions of the Iraqi Kurdistan, the Zionist enemy lost 60 men and 80 of his troops were wounded. Seven of his vehicles and one armored personnel carrier were destroyed.

On the basis of another report, the KDP Peshmerga, with the cooperation of the Ramadan headquarters forces, during an operation in retaliation for the attack by the Zionist enemy on the village of (Nuhuk), attacked the forces deployed in the (Baskah) and (Darluk) camps, and a military center in Zakhu; they occupied the (Darluk) camp until the following morning. A large number of the Zionist enemy troops were killed in this camp. During this operation, the combatants of Islam attacked the headquarter of the (Darluk) battalion, the military base of (Kamdasht), and another military base in this region and inflicted heavy losses on the enemy.

On the basis of the same report, the Corps of Islam, by organizing a series of ambush operations along the 'Amadiyah-(Darluk) highway, killed a large number of the Iraqi troops and captured intact an Iraqi Army vehicle that was loaded with ammunition.

Communique No 2,693

LD221622 Tehran IRNA in English 1541 GMT 22 Dec 86

[Text] Tehran, Dec 22, IRNA — Monday civilians were martyred and wounded when intruding Iraqi warplanes bombed residential areas in Islamabad-e Gharb, Bakhtaran Province, at 07:20 hours GMT Monday, said a military communique here.

Communique Number 2,693 released by the Joint Staff Command of Iran's Armed Forces said that heavy Iranian long range artillery fire began to hit Iraqi economic, industrial, and military targets along Iraq's eastern border with Iran at 16:30 hours GMT Sunday inflicting substantial losses on them.

The ongoing Iranian shelling of enemy targets are in retaliation for Iraqi air raids on residential areas in Iran, the communique said.

The military communique furthermore said that exchange of artillery fire continued in the southern fronts Saturday raging somewhat more heavily in Kuahk operational region as a result of which Iraqi troops sustained considerable casualties and losses and enemy tank fire was silenced. Enemy engineering operations were also checked.

In the western fronts, the communique said, parts of Iraqi fortifications were destroyed and enemy supply centers heavily damaged by Iranian artillery fire Saturday.

Iranian Gendarmerie forces shelled Iraqi positions in parts of the southern and western fronts Saturday killing a number of enemy soldiers and destroying several enemy vehicles, according to the communique.

Elsewhere, the Joint Staff Communique said that Iraqi soldiers suffered substantial casualties and losses and their engineering operations were halted in Marivan, Hajj 'Umran, and Sar Dasht, northwestern fronts, when their positions and supply routes came under Iranian artillery fire.

Communique No 2,694

LD231701 Tehran IRNA in English 1632 GMT 23 Dec 86

[Text] Tehran, Dec 23, IRNA — At least 60 civilians were martyred and 190 others wounded when Iraqi warplanes bombed the western Iranian city of Bakhtaran at 05:25, 09:30, and 12:20 hours GMT Tuesday, said a military communique here.

Communique Number 2,694 released by the Joint Staff Command of Iran's Armed Forces said that Iraqi warplanes also bombed Islamabad-e Gharb in Bakhtaran Province, at 12:40 hours GMT Tuesday inflicting some casualties and losses.

Iraq's military and industrial centers in the eastern Iraqi cities of 'Ali al-Gharb and al-Miqdadiyah were heavily bombed by Iranian jet fighters at 09:35 and 11:40 hours GMT Tuesday. The fighters after inflicting substantial losses on enemy industrial and military targets returned safely to bases, the communique said.

The military communique said that three ground-to-ground missiles were fired at three Iraqi industrial units in the southern Iraqi city of Basra at 11:30 hours GMT Sunday inflicting heavy losses on them.

The military communique said that three Iraqi gun boats attempting to sail out of Khawr 'Abdallah waterway in the northern tip of the Persian Gulf were shelled and sunk by Iranian naval forces early Monday. The Joint Staff communique furthermore said that heavy Iranian long range artillery fire hit (word indistinct) military and industrial centers along Iraq's eastern border inflicting irreparable losses on them.

An undetermined number of Iraqi soldiers were killed and large parts of enemy fortifications destroyed in Hajj 'Umran and Marivan operational theaters, northwestern fronts, when Iranian forces shelled bases, headquarters, and supply routes of Ba'hist troops, the communique said.

Exchange of artillery fire between Iranian Muslim combatants and Iraqi troops continued in Ilam and Bakhtaran border fronts Monday with the former holding the upper hand. The artillery duels raged more heavily in Ab Rayan and Naft-e Shah operational regions.

A convoy of Iraqi patrols attempting to infiltrate Iranian positions in Nahr 'Anbar, southern fronts, Monday sustained some casualties and was forced to flee under Iranian artillery fire, said the military communique.

Elsewhere, the communique said, Iranian forces shelled an Iraqi armoured unit in Yabis operational region, southern fronts, Monday killing a number of enemy troops and destroying some tanks of theirs.

Iraqi troops suffered heavy casualties and losses and their engineering operations were halted in Basra and Pich-e Angizeh, southern fronts, Monday by Iranian artillery fire.

Movements of Iraqi motorized columns were checked in the western operational theaters of Mehran and Kani-Sheykh Monday. Iranian forces also silenced enemy fire in Panjwin, northwestern fronts over the same period.